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B. S. Press—12-8-1916—598IC—360—B B S.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Tuesday, the 19th January, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. LYON, C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble Mr. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble SURGEON-GENERAL G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble Mr. H. H. GLEEN.

The Hon'ble Mr. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble Mr. C. H. BOMFAS.

The Hon'ble Mr. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble Mr. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble Mr. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble Mr. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

The President.

DEATH OF

The Hon'ble NAWAB SIR KHWAJA SALIMULLAH BAHADUR, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT said :—

"Before we proceed to the business on the paper, I desire to suspend the Rules of Business in order to refer to the loss we have sustained through the passing away of our late colleague the Nawab Bahadur of Dacca, and to move a resolution. Probably no one connected with Bengal, as it now is, was more widely looked up to throughout the Presidency, certainly no one in Bengal was more widely known outside of it. In a country where the holding of land counts for more than it now does in most countries and where the profession of a common religion is still the strongest bond to unite groups of men for common action, the Nawab Bahadur was one of the largest landlords and was looked up to as their trusted leader by the members of the most numerous religious community. You all know—better most of you than I do—the part which he took in political affairs. He freely gave his strong support to constituted authority, and his influence was a great help to Government officers in troublous times. He never forgot the interest of his own class or of his own community; but he was always fairminded and willing to look at both sides of any question. I often discussed with him matters concerning Bengal—matters especially as to which Government officers and popular leaders have not always seen eye to eye, or those which religious communities approach from entirely different stand-points, and I can say with truth that I have met no one since I came here who has pointed out to me more incisively than the Nawab Bahadur did where European officials may have made a mistake or may have failed to appreciate the Indian point of view, nor any one who saw more clearly than he did where there was a risk of those for whom he spoke failing to give heed enough to the cherished beliefs of others, or who was more ready to try to arrange that gain to his own friends should not be secured at a loss to those with whom he differed. His wide interests, his shrewd common sense and his sense of humour won for him the confidence of even those who were most naturally opposed to him. He never made any secret to me of his belief that the events which brought me to Bengal were not such as he could welcome in his own personal interests, but nevertheless no one could have been more frank than he was in explaining to me how he thought I might be able to help others, and I feel that in him I have lost a friend. His ill-health did not permit of his coming often to this Council, but he took great interest in its deliberations. He was looking forward to being here to-day and even meant to take a part in the proceedings. But he can no longer help us—save by the help which the memory of a wise man who loved his country always affords. Perhaps that help is peculiarly valuable at this moment. We all feel, I am sure, what grief the war must bring to the Muhammadan community. We all recognise how well the members of that community are meeting their present trial. We know how the Nawab Bahadur, by his counsel and by his example, was making it clear to all that the loyalty to our King-Emperor which so distinguishes his co-religionists is in no way incompatible with the fervent devotion to their ideals and to the teaching of their history to which they are so nobly devoted.

Gentlemen, I ask you to agree to the following resolution :—

'That this Council desire to place on record their recognition of the serious loss which they and the whole Presidency of Bengal have sustained by the death of the late Nawab Bahadur of Dacca, who, during a long period of years, unceasingly exerted his great influence and marked abilities in the furtherance of the public welfare; and to convey to the members of his family an expression of sincere sympathy in their great loss.'"

[*The Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan; Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Glen; Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.*]

The Hon'ble MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN said :—

"My Lord, I rise not only to associate myself with what Your Excellency has said regarding the late Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah Bahadur of Dacca but also to express very feebly my regret at the death of one who in every sense of the word held up the traditions of a true nobleman. To me personally the loss is great, for he was more than a friend—he was a brother; and although we shall no longer see him in this Council Chamber, although the Government will no longer get direct, and if I may venture to say, healthy advice from one who in more ways than one helped to keep the Muhammadan community in Bengal together, and although the community have suffered a loss which for this generation will, I think, be irreparable, yet we have got the memory of a great man to cherish and we have got this consolation that for him not one but thousands are grieving at this moment. I shall certainly miss, if I may use a term of familiarity, my friend Salim, not only in this Council Chamber but everywhere, and I think that the Hindu Members of this Council present here to-day will agree with me that, laying aside our political views and ideas, the Hindu community as a whole feel the loss of the late Nawab Sir Khwaja Salimullah as keenly as do the Muhammadans although their loss in certain respects is keener and irreparable. With these few words, I beg to support the resolution which Your Excellency has moved and to associate myself with everything that has fallen from you."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said:—

"My Lord, I desire to accord my hearty support to the resolution which has been placed before us by Your Excellency and to associate myself whole-heartedly with the observations which have fallen from Your Excellency and from my hon'ble friend the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan. I cannot claim to have had the advantage of his close personal friendship, but what little I knew of the late Nawab Bahadur filled me with the highest admiration for his many noble qualities of head and heart. My Lord, we did not always worship in the same temple and my friend has referred to the divergence of opinion which took place between him and ourselves on many questions, but none could approach, none could argue, none could discuss any public question with him without feeling that there was before him a person, honest, sincere and straightforward in the entertainment of his opinions and the expression of those opinions. My Lord, my hon'ble friend has rightly voiced the sentiments of the Hindu community when he says that we Hindus feel the loss as keenly as our Muhammadan fellow countrymen do. Although perhaps to them his loss is irreparable, we associate ourselves whole-heartedly with them in their great sorrow and stand by them in the hour of their bereavement. With these few words I desire to support the resolution."

The Hon'ble MR. GLEN said:—

"My Lord, I desire to associate myself with all that has fallen from Your Excellency. Having been connected with the district of Dacca for twenty-five years, I perhaps knew more of the late Nawab than many Hon'ble Members in this Council, and I can testify to the great qualities of the late Nawab and his predecessors. On behalf of the commercial community of Eastern Bengal, I wish to express our heartfelt sympathy with the Muhammadan community in the loss they have sustained."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR, said :—

"My Lord, a great shadow has fallen over Bengal and the Indian Mussalmans by the sudden and unexpected death of the late Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur Sir Khwaja Salimullah, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., of Dacca. He had been

[*Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.*]

ailing long from complicated diseases and his object in coming to Calcutta was chiefly to place himself in the hands of expert doctors. He was confined to bed since his arrival and there was no immediate cause for any anxiety. On Tuesday last, however, he had an attack of fever which abated on Friday morning, but in the afternoon towards 4 o'clock there was soon an utter relapse and he expired at two-twenty-five in the morning of Saturday. I was at his bedside when he passed away.

On behalf of the friends and relatives of the deceased nobleman and on behalf of the entire Mahammadan community, I beg to express our deep gratitude to Your Excellency for your presence and sympathy and for kindly cancelling all your valuable engagements and for closing the offices on Saturday. I would also take this opportunity of extending our gratitude to the other European and Indian officials and non-officials present on the occasion, and also to the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon who followed the funeral to the Railway station.

The deceased Nawab Bahadur descends from a family of great traditions. The founder of this family Khwaja Hakimullah came from Cashmere and on the downfall of the Moghul Empire settled himself down at Sylhet and assumed the role of a merchant. His successor Khwaja Ahmullah it is told gave up this mercantile enterprise, began purchasing landed property and settled himself at Dacca. In the time of the late Nawab Abdul Ghani the family rose to influence and power. In 1869 the difference between the Shias and Sunnis was smoothed over by his foresight and wisdom. He rendered much help to Government during the time of the Mutiny as well as in the Lushai and Naga Expeditions and during times of famines and floods. His generosity knew no bounds, and schools, colleges, hospitals, dispensaries, mosques, tombs, etc. received liberal donations. The water-works of Dacca owe their existence to the munificent donation of Sir Khwaja Ahsanullah. He was succeeded by Sir Ahsanullah who was as liberal as his father and introduced at his own cost Electric Light throughout Dacca.

The late Khwaja Sir Salimullah succeeded his father Sir Ahsanullah. He was gradually honoured with the titles of Nawab Bahadur, C.S.I., K.C.S.I. and G.C.I.E., in recognition of the valuable services he rendered to Government, to his country and to his community.

The Nawabs of Dacca have long been known for their wealth and munificence in Bengal and especially in Eastern Bengal. Sir Khwaja Salimullah exceeded his ancestors though not in wealth but in the estimation of the Government and the people and was the foremost leader of his community. The influence he had over his community was greater than that of his ancestors. Nawab Salimullah has had a successful career. In its early years he reverted to his ancestral calling temporarily as a merchant and was also in Government employ for a brief period in the Provincial Civil Service and so had gained an insight into human nature and was able to wield great influence over his community and other classes. His liberality and kind heartedness are too well known to need any comment. I have been closely associated with him from almost the beginning of his career and can make bold to say this of him. Innumerable institutions, families and individuals have been benefited by his generosity.

The death of the Nawab Bahadur of Dacca will be keenly felt not only in Bengal but throughout India. The Mussalmans of Bengal have lost in him a great leader, counsellor and friend and his death leaves a gap hard to be filled. He was the people's friend and representative and was readily accessible to all. He was ever ready to take his share in any work entrusted to him either by the Government or his countrymen. In spite of all that may be said, he was liked by Indian and European friends for his many qualities of

[*Maulvi Chaudhuri Ismail Khan.*]

head and heart. In later years the maladies he suffered from prevented him much from participating in Council meetings and other public affairs, but it must be said that his record of work in both the Councils—Imperial and Local—has been exemplary and his counsels were of great help.

Whatever he took up in hand he did it with the earnestness of purpose for the public weal. Politics played an important part in his life and he always distinguished himself by his fund of common sense and tact and guided the people safely through the course of all currents of thought. He was a power in Bengal and especially in Eastern Bengal. The inception of the All-India Moslem League was due to him and the preliminary session of the League was held at Dacca in 1906 and he was one of its Vice-Presidents. He was also a Vice-President of the London Branch of the League. He was the Founder and President of the Provincial Muhammadan Association of Eastern Bengal and Assam, Founder and President of the East Bengal and new Bengal Muhammadan League. He was also the President of the Eastern Bengal Landholders' Association for a long time.

Moslem Education also engaged his attention a great deal. He was the Founder and President of the Educational Conference in Eastern and the new Bengal as constituted at present. Zealous as a true Muhammadan he evinced a warm interest in all that concerned Islam and helped all around where his money and advice were needed. In religious education too, he evinced no less a keen desire in the scheme for the reformation of the Madrassahs which, it is hoped, will soon see the light of day.

An excellent representative and an exponent of the highest ideals and aspirations of the Mussalmans, his death to them is a great blow and with him one of the most influential personalities which Mussalman India produced in recent years passes away. Indian Mussalmans have lost in him a great and good man and the Mussalmans of Bengal and especially of Eastern Bengal a great patron of learning and one that was ever ready to ameliorate the conditions of the people and to dole out charity to all indigent who came to his doors.

He endeared himself to all classes by his kind and affable ways, and we shall miss his cheerful personality from this Chamber as well as in other spheres. The late lamented Nawab Bahadur is now dead and gone but his memory will be preserved in the hearts of all who came in contact with him. To have known him is to have loved him. Personally, I have lost in him a great friend and counsellor and we never hesitated to consult each other and profit by the same. There have been occasions when I differed from him in certain of his views but we agreed in essentials and remained good friends.

To his eldest son Nawab Khwaja Habibullah and all the bereaved members of his family, this Council, I am sure, joins me in its deep sympathy and condolence, and also to Government and the people of Bengal in general over the loss of one who was ever loyal to the backbone in thought, word and deed, and to the people—a patron, friend and counsellor. In doing so let us pray that God's blessings may rest on Nawab Habibullah, that He may grant him wisdom in the performance of his duties."

The Hon'ble MAULVI CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN said :—

"My Lord, I will be failing in my duty if I do not associate myself with my Hon'ble friends who so feelingly expressed their sorrow at the untimely death of Nawab Bahadur Sir Khawja Salimullah. I had the privilege and pleasure of enjoying his friendship for more than 12 years. On many an occasion his generosity and liberality struck me with astonishment and

[*Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda ; Maulvi Mushrat Husain.*]

admiration. With all his rank, wealth and dignity he was always accessible to every one whether high or low. He would never disappoint a really needy person and he was always ready with a kind reply or a word of hope for those who approached him for help and guidance. I for one have lost in him a dear and a sincere friend. His death has cast a gloom over this province and the Mussalmans of Bengal consider it in the light of a national calamity. He was to them a leader in whom they placed implicit faith and confidence so much so that they would have ungrudgingly followed him wherever he would like to lead them. Thus it is a great and noble man in the prime of his life who has been carried away from amidst us. We can only mourn his loss and pray to the Almighty that his soul may rest in peace."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I desire to associate myself with everything that has fallen from Your Excellency's lips. I had the privilege of enjoying the friendship of the late Nawab Sir Salimullah and I can say from an intimate knowledge of him extending over many years that it will always be difficult to find a man more lovable in his disposition, more generous towards friends and more forbearing towards enemies. A shrewd man ready to do the right thing at the right moment with an intense love for his country and his community he was the ideal leader of the Mussalmans of this Presidency and exercised the highest influence for good over the entire Moslim community of India. The manner in which he performed his duties as a leader at a time when circumstances demanded the highest qualities of tact and statesmanship is well known to Government and to his countrymen. I have never known one more sincere in his convictions and more anxious to promote the best interest of his country and his countrymen. Of his unflinching loyalty to his sovereign it is not for me to speak. Your Excellency has spoken of that in no uncertain language, and no one who knows of the life and work of the man would say that that estimate is in the least too high.

There are very few public men in this country who have not at one time or other asked for his support and never was support more judiciously or more ungrudgingly given. I myself remember with gratitude my great personal indebtedness to him but this is not the time or place to dwell on that.

The Mussalmans of India have lost in him not only a friend and a guide but one who was ever ready to place himself and his resources at their service. I am afraid the gap created by his death will not soon be filled."

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHRAF HUSAIN said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support the resolution moved by Your Excellency in this Council. Language fails to express the sorrow felt by all of us on the sad, sudden and untimely death of our distinguished leader and friend, the late Nawab Sir Khawja Salimullah Bahadur of Dacca. It is needless to enumerate here the services rendered by the distinguished gentleman both to Government and to the people, as they are too well known to all of us present to need enumeration. His very presence had an electrifying effect on all those he met. I have never seen anybody returning disappointed from our revered friend. He enjoyed the confidence of both Government and people and whatever problem, political or social, was put before him for solution, he solved it in the interest of the rulers and the ruled and as such his solutions were accepted by all without a word of protest. We have lost in him a true leader, a sincere friend, a wise statesman and an earnest

[*Mr. Lyon ; Babu Upendra Lal Ray.*]

worker in the cause of humanity and the lasting peace of the country. I sincerely wish that his soul may rest in peace in Heaven and see the effects of all the good and useful works he has inaugurated during his life time.

With these words, My Lord, I beg to support the resolution put before the Council for acceptance."

The Hon'ble Mr. LYON said :—

"My Lord, I should like to add a few words to the tribute which has been paid to-day to the late Nawab Bahadur of Dacca, both as an old personal friend and as one who has been closely associated with him, both in his private affairs and in his public life, for the past ten years.

We all were his friends here and we knew his geniality, his hospitality, his sympathy, and that kindness to all, entirely irrespective of class or creed which endeared him to everyone he met. And also we recognised the deep religious convictions which, while they bound his own community to him with bonds of steel, at the same time evoked the respect and affection of others who, while they might have similar ideals, did not share in his religious faith.

But here, in this Council, it is mainly as a statesman that we regard him, and as such he rose as many other statesmen have risen in times of stress. We remember how at the time of the first partition of Bengal, he set himself at once loyally to do what he could for the new Province and to help its Government. He incurred much obloquy and much opposition from those who did not agree with him. He met all this with patience, with strength and with dignity, and it is not too much to say that in a very short time he earned the respect and affection of even those who were opposed to him. And, later, when the partition of Bengal was revoked, when he was present in spite of his ill-health at the Delhi Durbar, he had the foresight to see at once that the word of the King-Emperor could not be recalled, and that the decision which had been come to was final, and he ranged himself once more on the side of law and order and devoted all his energies to preventing those of his community who were disappointed at that decision from giving expression to it in any violent or disorderly manner. And, during the past few months of anxiety, his work has been worthy of him, in spite of his grievous and increasing illness.

It is not too much to say that while the Muhammadans of this country owe him a great debt, Bengal as a whole owes him one that is even greater, and all that we may do to honour his memory will repay it in but small measure."

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY said :—

"My Lord, I rise to associate myself with the resolution moved by Your Excellency. The death of the Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur of Dacca has come upon us as a surprise. As an inhabitant of Eastern Bengal I had occasion to know the late Nawab Bahadur in various ways. His strong personality and his genial disposition endeared him to all who had occasion to meet him. He was as honest in the formation of his opinion on all matters of public importance as he was straightforward in his expression of them. The loss to Bengal has been great and it is not known whether it will be made up in the near future. The only consolation that we can offer his bereaved family is that the Government recognised his meritorious services and that the country mourns his loss."

The resolution was then carried, all present standing.

[*Dr. D. P. Sarbadhikari; Mr. J. G. Cumming; Babu U. L. Ray; Mr. H. L. Stephenson.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI :—

*1. Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*i*) whether the abolition of the existing last grade of Munsifs in Bengal will take effect from the commencement of the current financial year as provided for in the current year's budget ;

(*ii*) if not, from what date will the abolition take effect, and what are the reasons for delay ?

Abolition of the last grade of Munsifs in Bengal

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*i*) "The answer is in the negative.

(*ii*) It is not possible to state from what date the abolition of the last grade of Munsifs in Bengal will take effect.

Government regret that they are not prepared to make recommendations at the present time for the immediate increase of expenditure which the proposal would involve and are awaiting the Report of the Royal Commission on the Public Services before taking further action in the matter."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

*2. (*a*) Are the Government aware that in the Customs House at Calcutta, Government paper and other securities, and cash for adjustment of salt credits, are not accepted by the Accounts and Cash Department after 2 P.M. and 2-15 P.M., respectively, on ordinary days and after 12 noon and 12-15 P.M., respectively, on Saturdays ?

Latest hour of receipt of Government paper and other securities in the Customs House Calcutta.

(*b*) Is it a fact that after the introduction of the salt credit system and up to September 1911 the time for receiving such securities and cash was till 3 P.M. on ordinary days and 12-30 P.M. on Saturdays ?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that representations have been made to the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, by the dealers and brokers on the subject ?

(*d*) What has been the result of these representations ?

(*e*) Is it a fact that in all other Government offices, including the other departments of the Customs office, cash and securities are received till 3 P.M. on ordinary days and 12-30 P.M. on Saturdays ?

(*f*) Are the Government considering the question of introducing the old system of receiving cash and securities which had been in force before September 1911 in the Customs House at Calcutta ?

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The facts stated are correct.

(*c*) & (*d*) Representations have been made to the Collector of Customs, who received a deputation of dealers and brokers on the subject.

(*e*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*f*) The new timing was introduced because it was found that owing to the development of the salt credit system the Accounts Branch was kept at work daily till a late hour in order to close the salt credits. The change has given considerable relief to the clerks and inflicts no real hardship on the dealers and brokers. Government do not, therefore, propose to interfere with the Collector's order".

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. J. G. Cumming: Babu U. L. Ray; Mr. H. L. Stephenson.*]

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

ues situated the area by the Commis-

*3. (*a*) Is it a fact that the doors of one of the mosques situated within the area acquired by the Port Commissioners at Kidderpore have been removed by the Port Commissioners in spite of protests by the Muhammadan community?

(*b*) Is it a fact that the Port Commissioners are hindering Muhammadans from visiting the mosques for purposes of prayer and other religious observances?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "It is a fact that two doors have been removed from the mosque situated at the junction of the Sonai Road and Sonai First Lane. Inquiries have been made and it has been ascertained that the doors were not removed by the employés of the Port Commissioners. It is not known by whom they were taken away.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

ation of Calcutta.

1.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the quantity of salt imported into Calcutta and cleared from the Government warehouses and steamers at Calcutta during the years 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1914, respectively?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON was laid on the table :—

"A statement is laid on the table furnishing the information asked for. The figures are for the official year."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson to Question No. 1 (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray at the Council meeting of the 19th January, 1915, showing the quantity of salt imported into Calcutta and cleared from the Government warehouses and steamers at Calcutta during the period from 1909-10 to 1913-14.

Year.	Quantity imported.	QUANTITY CLEARED.		Total quantity cleared.
		From shipboard.	From bond.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1909-10	11,678,319	2,675,249	8,047,495	10,722,744
1910-11	11,879,570	2,834,556	8,484,220	11,318,770
1911-12	13,391,708	2,912,284	8,901,458	11,813,742
1912-13	13,078,589	2,610,071	9,295,197	11,905,268
1913-14	14,191,668	2,861,266	9,423,676	12,284,942
1914-15 (up to 31st December 1914).	8,257,709	2,375,459	7,575,984	9,951,443

[*Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan ; J. H. Kerr ; Mr. Beatson Bell ; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.*]

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

11.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of postponing the carrying out of the present survey and settlement operations in the district of Noakhali to a time of greater agricultural prosperity ?

Survey settlement operations in the district of Noakhali.

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. KERR was laid on the table :—

"The question was considered in connection with certain petitions submitted to Government in September and November last, and Government came to the conclusion that there was nothing in the agricultural conditions of the district to warrant a suspension of the Survey and Settlement operations. The recovery of the cost, moreover, will not begin until the year 1917-18, and any delay at the present stage would inevitably result in an increase in the total cost of the operations."

THE BENGAL EMBANKMENT (SUNDARBANS) BILL, 1915.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Embankment (Sundarbans) Bill, 1915.

He said :—

"My Lord, I ask for leave to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Sundarbans Bill. In doing so, I express regret that one member of the Committee, my friend the Hon'ble Maulvi Fazl-ul-Haq, was unable to attend any of our meetings owing to illness. Another matter of regret is that we are not quite unanimous. A minute of dissent has been recorded by two Hon'ble Members. It is now placed on the table. I am also asked to give notice that Hon'ble Members desiring to move amendments to the Bill should, under the rules, send notice of the same to reach the Secretary to the Council not later than 11 A. M. on the 17th February next."

THE CALCUTTA IMPROVEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1915.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 3.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Calcutta Improvement (Amendment) Bill, 1915.

He said :—

"My Lord, I also am asked to give notice that Hon'ble Members desiring to move amendments to the Bill should, under the rules, send notice of the same to reach the Secretary to the Council not later than 11 A. M. on the 17th February next.

THE BENGAL STEAM-BOILERS AND PRIME-MOVERS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1915.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 4 and 5.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Bengal Steam-boilers and Prime-movers Act, 1879.

He said :—

"My Lord, this Bill deals with rather a technical subject—steam-boilers and Prime movers. According to the definition in the existing Act, "boiler"

includes any cylinder or vessel for generating steam under pressure, while "prime-mover" includes any steam-engine, fly-wheel, first driving shaft or pulley attached to any such engine. The Act extends to the town of Calcutta and Howrah and it is also within the competence of Government to extend it to other places in the mufassal. It has been extended to various places in the coal districts and it has also been extended to Naraingunge and Chandpur and I think, to a few other places. The main point of our Bill is that we think that the present Act is possibly rather too drastic, and we are proposing therefore to make it more elastic. I hope this Bill will show that Government are not always actuated by that passion for regulation with which it is not unoften credited.

At present, the exemptions under the Act are very few. The Act does not apply to any locomotive engine used upon any railway or to any steam vessel in the Port of Calcutta. These are the only exemptions. Locomotives are, of course, thoroughly inspected under the supervision of the Railway Board and the steam vessels in the Port of Calcutta are covered by other legislation. But we think that these exemptions do not go quite far enough. Some prime-movers and steam-boilers are in no way dangerous either to the public or to those who work them and we ask for power to exempt them specifically. We also ask for power to exempt any boiler or prime-mover which is used exclusively for domestic purposes at atmospheric pressure. I think the Council will agree that these are reasonable exemptions.

The third exemption which we suggest introducing into the Act relates to steam-vessels in any area outside Calcutta to which the Act has been extended. Passenger steamers in the mufassal are already dealt with under other Acts, but there are certain other steamers in the mufassal, for example steam-launches belonging to mercantile firms, both European and Indian, at Naraingani and Chandpur. We have been advised that it is unnecessary to subject these vessels to the Act, and we therefore propose to exempt them, following the precedent of the Burma Act. It may be, however, that this is going too far and we are quite prepared to reconsider or modify this proposal after we have consulted those most concerned.

Finally, we propose to provide for the payment of pensions, gratuities or compassionate allowances, as the case may be, to any Boiler Inspector who is injured, or to the relative of any Boiler Inspector who is killed, in the discharge of his duties. This is a humane and necessary provision which will, I am sure, commend itself to the Council.

My Lord, these are the main provisions which we desire to incorporate in the Act.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson-Bell moved that the said Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Newbould, the Hon'ble Mr. Payne, the Hon'ble Mr. Cowley, the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, the Hon'ble Mr. Bray, the Hon'ble Mr. Grieve, the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray and the mover with instructions to circulate their report in time for its consideration in Council at the meeting to be held in March next.

The motion was put and agreed to.

RESOLUTIONS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 6, 7 and 8.

(*Under the Rules for the discussion of matters of general public interest.*)

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY was to have moved the following resolution :—

'This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that an Advisory Board (to consist of official and non-official Members) be formed for the

[*Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

Adjournment.

purpose of advising Government in matters connected with primary and secondary education in this Presidency.'

He said :—

"My Lord, I am sorry to find that there is some misapprehension in the minds of certain of the Muhammadan members of this Council as regards my resolution. I do not like at this time to move a resolution which may have the effect of hampering the Government. In the circumstances, therefore, I beg to withdraw the resolution with your Excellency's permission.

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

The resolution having been withdrawn, the following two amendments standing in the names of the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur, and the Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan, respectively, were also deemed to have been withdrawn :—

'The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur, to move that for the words within brackets "(to consist of official and nonofficial Members)", in line 2 of the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray's resolution, the following be substituted, namely :—

"(consisting of officials and non-officials and on which the Hindu and Muhammadan communities shall be equally represented)".'

'The Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan to move that for the words within brackets "(to consist of official and non-official Members)", in line 2 of the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray's resolution, the following be substituted, namely :—

"(consisting of officials and non-officials, of whom the majority shall be Muhammadans)".'

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to the 4th March, 1915, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal and

Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA ;

The 22nd January, 1915.

B. S. Press—1-2-1915—3558J—500—B. N. K.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Tuesday, the 2nd March, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble SURGEON-GENERAL G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. B. C. MITRA.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., AMIR-UL-OMRAH.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRIGG.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

Questions and Answers.

Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad : N. Basu.

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

The Hon'ble Ihtisham-ul-Mulk Rais-ud-Daula Amir-ul-Omrah Nawab Sir Asif Qadr Saiyid Wasif Ali Mirza Khan Bahadur Mahabat Jang, Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, made an affirmation of his allegiance to the Crown.

THE LATE NAWAB OF DACCA.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT said :—

"Before we proceed further with the business that is before us, I should like to read to you the following letter which has been received by the Secretary to the Council in reference to the resolution carried in this Council on the 19th January last.

ASHMAN MANZIL, DACCA,
The 12th February 1915.

From Khwaja Habibullah, Nawab of Dacca.

DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your demi-official No. 195 L., dated the 4th February current, and have to thank you for the copies of the abstract of the proceedings of a meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council held on the 19th January last.

The family are deeply conscious of the gratitude they owe to the members of the Bengal Legislative Council for the resolution of sympathy in regard to the death of their head, the late Nawab Sir Salimullah Bahadur.

I am,
Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) K. HABIBULLAH,
Nawab of Dacca.

To A. W. WATSON, ESQ., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Bengal Legislative Council, Calcutta.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

By the Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR :—

Supply for the ... of canals in the neighbourhood of the Eden Canal.

*1. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the raiyats in the neighbourhood of the Eden Canal entered into an agreement with the Eden Canal authorities for the supply of water for the irrigation of their lands ?

(*b*) Are the Government also aware that the Eden Canal authorities have, in the last few years, failed to supply this water ?

By the Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR :—*concluded.*

(*c*) In this connection, has it been brought to the notice of Government that the canal authorities have throughout realised from the raiyats the entire amount which the latter stipulated to pay for the regular supply of this water ?

(*d*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of making an inquiry into the matter ?

The Hon'ble MR. COWLEY replied :—

1. (*a*) " Yes.

(*b*) It is the case that during recent years the supply of water to the Eden Canal has been precarious and during the past two years, 1913 and 1914, the supply has been nearly cut off by the sand *chur* which has formed in front of the Jajuti Sluice.

In 1912 there was no complaint of short supply, probably on account of the assistance from rain.

In 1913 water was supplied up to a fairly late date in the season, but the supply was deficient in October.

In 1914 the supply completely failed in September.

(*c*) It is incorrect to say that the canal authorities have throughout realised from the raiyats the entire amount which they stipulated to pay for the regular supply of water

It is the case that when crops have suffered owing to the failure of supply of water, remission of water rates is allowed, provided the applications are received before the crops are cut

Many such applications have been received for the year 1914 and are being inquired into, and remission will be given where necessary. It has been reported that the remission of water rates for the year 1914 may amount to Rs. 10,000. A new supply sluice and head works about 2 miles below the existing sluice are now under construction and it is hoped will be completed before the next irrigation season. These works will ensure the supply for the time being since they are more favourably situated where the river is close to the bank and where at present there is no likelihood of a sand *chur* forming in front of it.

(*d*) It is not considered necessary in the circumstances to make any further inquiry into the matter; the supply of water is governed by certain rules with which the raiyats are fully conversant and remission of water rates can be granted by the Divisional Canal Officer for injury to the crop on a leased area caused by a deficient supply of water, provided that a written application for remission has been made 15 days at least before the crop is cut."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur :—

Education of *pardanashin* Ladies the Lalbagh subdivision.

*2. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any arrangements for *Pardanashin* Zenana education have been made in the Lalbagh subdivision ?

(*b*) If so, how many lady teachers have been appointed ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "Arrangements for *Pardanashin Zenana* education have been made in the Lalbagh subdivision of the Murshidabad district.

(*b*) One lady teacher has been appointed."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur :—

Water-works scheme for the Krishnagar Municipality.

*3. (*a*) Is it a fact that the Krishnagar Municipality has submitted a water-works scheme for the town and prayed for the usual Government grant of half the amount of the total cost ?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what is the total cost of the proposed water-works and whether Government have passed any final orders in the matter ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) and (*b*) "A complete water-supply scheme for the Krishnagar Municipality was drawn up by the Sanitary Engineer at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,82,000, which was subsequently raised to Rs 2,91,000. This scheme was referred to the Municipal Commissioners in April, 1914, for resubmission with definite proposals for financing it, Government making an offer to pay one half of the total cost. The Municipal Commissioners, while accepting the offer of financial assistance made by Government, resolved to move Government for further assistance towards the drainage scheme and decided to consider both schemes together on receipt of the reply from Government

The financial aspect of these two schemes presents great difficulties The whole question was thoroughly investigated and discussed with the Municipal Commissioners by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Department during his recent visit to Krishnagar and the Sanitary Engineer is now being consulted on a proposal to curtail the drainage scheme so as to reduce its capital cost and to bring the recurring charges for its upkeep within the financial resources available The question of a Government contribution will be carefully considered on receipt of the Sanitary Engineer's report."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur

Drainage scheme for Gouri town in the Krishnagar Municipality

*4. (*a*) Is it a fact that the Krishnagar Municipality has submitted a drainage scheme for Gouri town ?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have approved of the scheme and whether any contribution has been sanctioned by them for the same ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) and (*b*) "The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer given by me to Question No. 3."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur :—

Establishment of a Pasteur Institute at Rangpur.

*5. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the Zamindary Association of Rangpur submitted a memorial on the 25th November, 1914, through the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division, praying for the establishment of a Pasteur Institute ?

(*b*) Have the Government received the said memorial and, if so, will they be pleased to state what orders have been passed thereon ?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The memorial has been received and the memorialists have been informed, in reply, that the decision regarding the utilization of the money subscribed to the King Edward Memorial Fund, Eastern Bengal and Assam, lay, not with the Government but with the subscribers themselves. The subscribers decided to devote a portion of the Fund to the construction and equipment of a Pasteur Institute at Shillong, and steps have been taken accordingly. As there is to be a Pasteur Institute at Shillong, the Governor in Council considers it unnecessary to have another such institution so near to Shillong as Darjeeling."

Maharaja of Nashipur: Mr. Samman.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur:—

Outbreak of small-pox in Calcutta.

*6. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there has been an epidemic of small-pox recently in Calcutta?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) have been taken or are being taken to check the spread of the disease?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied:—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) To supplement the existing accommodation for small-pox patients in the Campbell Hospital, the Government have sanctioned the opening of a temporary small-pox hospital, which will provide accommodation for 100 patients. The Corporation of Calcutta have acquired a site at Gobra and are making the necessary arrangements in consultation with the Superintendent of the Campbell Hospital.

Temporary vaccinators have been appointed for the vaccination of persons working in the mills in or near Calcutta and of the shipping community of the port of Calcutta.

The task of dealing with the present epidemic is primarily one for the Health Department of the Corporation of Calcutta, which is fully alive to the situation. The following, among other measures, have already been taken by the Corporation:—

(*i*) Shortly before the outbreak a warning notice urging the public to get vaccinated was published, and when small pox was declared epidemic, a notification was published by beat of drum, by posters and in the press that all vaccination would be free of charge. As a result of this step the number of persons vaccinated has increased enormously.

(*ii*) The Health Department has been strengthened by the employment of extra vaccinators, both male and female, and also of Medical, Disinfecting and *Bustee*-cleansing Inspectors.

(*iii*) Sixteen Medical men of the town having volunteered to vaccinate the poor free of charge, arrangements have been made to supply them with fresh lymph.

(*iv*) All school-boys, students, and employés known to have been in contact with a case of small-pox are quarantined.

(*v*) A small hospital has been opened in Tangra for Indian patients who can afford to pay.

(*vi*) Ambulances have been provided at each of the principal hospitals of the town, and arrangements have been made for disinfecting the *gharries* in which persons suffering from infectious diseases are carried to the hospitals.

(*vii*) As many cases of small pox are treated at home, medicated oil has been distributed free for use as a disinfectant."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur:—

Alteration of the dates of the Calcutta University Examinations.

*7. Are the Government considering the advisability, in the interests of the health of the student community, of asking the Senate of the Calcutta University whether the dates for the University examinations could not be fixed in future in months other than February, March and April, when epidemics of illness are not infrequent in Calcutta?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied:—

Maharaja of Nashipur; Mr. Kerr; Babu S. N. Ray; Mr. Samman.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur :—

Alleged deterioration of cattle in Bengal.

*8. (*a*) Are the Government aware that cattle in Bengal have much deteriorated in recent years?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the advisability of establishing pasture lands in every village?

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR replied :—

(*a*) "Government are not aware that there has been a marked deterioration of cattle in Bengal in recent years. But it is a fact that the condition of the cattle in this Presidency is not satisfactory. The reasons are partly climatic and partly economic. The question of the remedies to be applied has been frequently discussed both in this Council and elsewhere.

(*b*) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the reply given to a similar question asked by him at the Council meeting of the 1st September, 1914. The reports of Commissioners in reply to the reference made to them on the subject of grazing grounds in Government estates have recently been received, and are under the consideration of the Board of Revenue."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

Malaria fever in the Nadia district.

*9. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to say whether it is a fact that fifteen thousand people, or some number approaching that figure, died of malarial fever in the Nadia district in November, 1914, and that the deaths in that district in December, 1914, were nearly fourteen thousand?

(*b*) Were any additional medical men sent to the district of Nadia during the outbreak of malarial fever in November, 1914?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that it is constantly asserted that the outbreak of malarial fever in an epidemic form in the Nadia and adjoining districts is due to the action of the Eastern Bengal State Railway in closing the Matiokore Bund in the district of Murshidabad?

Will the Government be pleased to state what steps, if any, they are taking to put down malaria in those districts?

The Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) "No separate statistics are kept for malarial fever. Deaths from fever of all kinds in the district of Nadia numbered 11,554 in November, 1914, and 11,526 in December, 1914.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) Government have no information on this point.

(*d*) In order to put down malaria, every endeavour is being made to popularise the use of quinine, and almanacs printed in the vernacular, containing a leaflet on malaria and its remedies, are widely distributed in all districts. Certain quantities of quinine have been supplied free of cost to the Mission dispensaries at Ranaghat, Ratanpur and Meherpur.

In accordance with expert medical opinion the District Boards and Municipalities have been requested to arrange for the administration of adequate doses of quinine to all persons treated for the disease at charitable dispensaries. In exceptional cases, grants have been given from Provincial Revenues to such Municipalities as are really unable to bear the extra charge incurred on this account.

As a temporary measure Assistant Surgeons have been appointed to deliver lectures on sanitation and hygiene with special reference to malaria, at all Government High schools and Technical schools and at some aided schools.

Liberal grants have been made to Municipalities to assist them in carrying through water supply and drainage projects.

The substantial additions made to the incomes of District Boards by the surrender of the Public Works Cess should enable these bodies to do far more than hitherto to combat malaria."

Babu S. N. Banerji: Mr. Cumming.

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Dacoities in the residency and urdwan divisions

*10. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the number of dacoities that have taken place in the riparian towns from Baranagar to Naihati and from Bally to Hooghly within the last three months ;

(*ii*) the number of dacoities that have occurred in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions within the same period, district by district ;

(*iii*) the number of arrests made and the cases in which such arrests have been made ; and

(*iv*) the number of convictions in these cases and the punishments inflicted ?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*i*) "During the three months ending on 31st January 1915, there were two cases of dacoity in river-side villages between Baranagar and Naihati and two others in river-side villages between Bally and Hooghly.

(*ii*) The following table contains the information required :—

Name of Division.	Name of district.	Number of dacoities reported during the three months ending on 31st January 1915.	REMARKS.
Burdwan ...	Burdwan ...	4	One of these has been found to be a case of robbery.
	Birbhum ...	Nil.	
	Bankura ...	2	
	Midnapur ...	13	Two of these cases have been declared to be false.
	Hooghly ...	10	One of these cases has been declared to be non-cognizable.
	Howrah ...	1	
	Total ...	30	
Presidency ...	24-Parganas ...	15	One of these cases has been found to be a case of house-breaking.
	Nadia ...	Nil.	
	Murshidabad ...	Nil.	
	Jessore ...	2	
	Khulna ...	2	
	Total ...	19	

These figures include the four dacoities mentioned in the previous paragraph.

(*iii*) In the Burdwan Division there were 73 arrests in 13 cases, and in the Presidency Division 64 arrests in 8 cases.

(*iv*) None of the cases in which arrests have been made has yet been finally decided, while most of the other cases are under investigation."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Relaxation of the provisions of the Arms Act.

*11. Are the Government considering the desirability of relaxing the stringency of the provisions of the Arms Act in the direction of granting licenses for purposes of self-protection?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"The attention of the Hon'ble Member is invited to paragraph 7 of the Government Resolution on Police Administration in Bengal, dated September 8th, 1913, in which the following passage occurs :—

In the opinion of His Excellency in Council, attempts should be made to secure the active assistance of those living in rural areas by strengthening their hands and placing them in a position to be able to withstand the attacks of dacoits. With this object in view, Government are prepared to give licenses freely to rich merchants and others who have large interests in the *mofussil* on the condition that they employ pensioned up-country sepoys who are not only trained in the use of arms but are also likely to offer a brave front to dacoits.

"Action has been taken to carry out the policy suggested in this paragraph but no further relaxation of the existing rules under the Arms Act is under the consideration of Government."

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION.

The Hon'ble Babu SURENDRA NATH BANERJI asked the following supplementary question :—

"Will the Government be pleased to state the number of cases in which, under the terms of the resolution referred to by the Hon'ble Member, licenses have been given to persons asking for such licenses?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"If due notice is given I shall be glad to give the information."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Protection of riparian towns against dacoities.

*12. Are the Government considering the advisability of providing two steam launches, one to patrol from Baranagar to Barrackpur and the other from Barrackpur to Naihati, for the protection of the riparian towns against dacoities?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"The question of policing the rivers of Western Bengal is at present under the consideration of the Inspector General of Police."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Kabuli money-lenders in Bengal.

*13. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the recent oppressive proceedings of kabuli money-lenders in Bengal?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the advisability of introducing a system of registration by which the movements of these men could be watched and protection afforded to the people with whom they have dealings?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

(*a*) "Inquiries have been made and it has been ascertained that the number of cases, chiefly of a minor nature, reported against Kabulis in Calcutta was greater in 1914 than in 1913. Nineteen cases of oppression by Kabuli money-lenders were reported in 1914 in Bengal outside Calcutta.

(*b*) A system of registration is already in existence and there is a special staff of police in Calcutta who deal with itinerant Kabulis. The movements of these men throughout the Presidency are also registered."

Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Cumming; Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Mr. Samman.

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Expenditure in connection with the partitioning of the district of Mymensingh

*14. Will the Government be pleased to state what additional expenditure, both recurring and non-recurring, will be incurred in partitioning the district of Mymensingh into three, and the district of Midnapur into two districts?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"No estimates have yet been prepared. With regard to Midnapur, a report has been called for from the Public Works Department in paragraph 10 of Resolution No. 1155 P., dated the 26th January, 1915, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 27th idem."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Introduction of Administrative and other changes on the basis of the recommendations of the District Administration Committee.

*15. Is it in the contemplation of the Government to introduce administrative and other changes on the basis of the recommendations of the District Administration Committee before April, 1916?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"Government have invited an expression of public opinion on these recommendations, and, apart from the cases of Midnapur and Mymensingh, have not so far decided what changes should be introduced. His Excellency in Council hopes to come to a decision without undue delay, but the introduction of any reforms that may be considered desirable must always be subject to financial considerations."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Cost of effecting the division and re-adjustment of administrative areas as recommended by the District Administration Committee.

*16. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a detailed estimate of the cost, both recurring and non-recurring, which will be incurred in effecting the division and re-adjustment of administrative areas as recommended in Part II of the Report of the District Administration Committee?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"No estimates have been prepared."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI :—

Infantile mortality in Bengal.

1. Will the Government be pleased to state what measures (if any) have so far been taken to reduce the high rate of Infantile mortality in Bengal generally, and in certain districts specially, to which I drew attention in a Resolution moved by me in March last year?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"In his speech on the Resolution moved in March, 1914, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda assured the Hon'ble Member that Government were determined to make a systematic effort to combat ignorance and to diffuse knowledge of sanitation and necessary preventive measures among the public.

The whole question of hygiene and sanitation, including the instruction of girls and women in domestic hygiene and in matters relating to maternity and the management of children, has since been carefully examined by a Committee appointed by Government. That Committee has recently finished its discussions but its report has not yet been received by Government. It is understood that several practical suggestions have been made by the Committee; these will be carefully considered by Government on receipt of the report. Till then it is not possible for Government to formulate any general line of action, but in the meanwhile the Sanitary Officers of Government are doing all that lies in their power to combat ignorance in these subjects."

Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Mr. Samman.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Subsidizing of Maktabs.

II. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether *Maktabs* of all classes are subsidized by the District Boards in accordance with the provision of the Model Rules of 1911 for the administration of Primary grants, which allowed the *Maktabs* 50 per cent. above the scale of grants to corresponding *Pathsalas*?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether provisions have been made for subsidizing Upper Primary *Maktabs* similar to Upper Primary schools?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) The model rules of 1911 have been adopted by District Boards; but it has been ascertained that, owing to a misunderstanding, effect has not in all cases been given to rule 25 which provides for an addition of 50 to the ordinary rates of subsistence and deferred allowances in the case of *mianjis* of recognised *Maktabs*. The Director of Public Instruction has invited the attention of Divisional Inspectors of Schools to this omission and has issued necessary instructions.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative. Under the rules, *Maktabs* are expected to teach only up to the Lower Primary standard. The Department of Education therefore, recognises no distinction between Upper Primary and Lower Primary *Maktabs*."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Earle Scheme for the opening of *Mianji* Training Schools, etc.

III. Will the Government be pleased to state whether effect has been given to the Earle Scheme for the opening of *Mianji* training schools and appointing inspecting Maulvis in all the districts of the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The scheme drawn up by Sir Archdale Earle in 1908 contemplated the opening of six *mianji* training schools in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions. Of these, five have been opened in the districts of Midnapore, Hooghly, the 24-Parganas, Jessore and Khulna.

Sir Archdale Earle further recommended that an inspecting *Maulvi* be appointed in every district that contained more than 90 *maktabs* and *Koran* schools. Effect has been given to this proposal in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Appointment of Muhammadan Additional Deputy Inspectors of Schools in Howrah, Bankura and the proposed district of Kharagpur.

IV. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the question of the appointment of Muhammadan Additional Deputy Inspectors of schools in the Districts of Howrah, Bankura and the proposed District of Kharagpur?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

The Laskarpur and other mosques included in the area acquired by the Port Commissioners of Calcutta.

V. Are the Government considering the advisability of making a definite pronouncement as to the future policy which the Government propose to adopt regarding the Laskarpur and other mosques included in the area acquired by the Port Commissioners of Calcutta?

The Bengal Embankment (Sundarbans) Bill. Mr. Cumming: Mr. Beatson Bell.

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"The future of the Laskarpur Mosque and other mosques in the port area involves questions of legal rights between the Port Commissioners and the Muhammadan public. If there is any doubt or uncertainty as to these rights, the matter can be set at rest either by agreement of parties or by a judicial decision.

Government have always avoided and will continue to avoid, as far as circumstances permit, taking any action likely to hurt the religious sentiments of any class of His Majesty's subjects, and have no doubt that the same considerations will influence any action which the Port Commissioners may propose to take in connection with these mosques."

THE BENGAL STEAM-BOILERS AND PRIME-MOVERS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1915.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 3 & 4.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Steam-boilers and Prime-movers Bill, 1915, and moved that the said Report be taken into consideration.

He said :—

"My Lord, I need not trouble the House with any speech as the Select Committee have been unanimous in their Report. They have made a few verbal alterations in the Bill and I think the House will be of opinion that those verbal alterations are improvements. The House will remember that when I introduced the Bill, I mentioned that the question of steam-vessels in the mufassal required further consideration. We have so amended the Bill that we have laid down nothing hard and fast regarding steam-vessels in the mufassal. Action will be taken as occasions require by statutory notification.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved that the Bill be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE BENGAL EMBANKMENT (SUNDARBANS) BILL, 1915.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 5.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Embankment (Sundarbans) Bill, 1915, be taken into consideration.

The motion was put and agreed to.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS.

Clause 2.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 1.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha moved that for the first three lines of clause 2 of the Bill the following be substituted, namely :—

> "Subject to the condition that such extension shall not affect any right which the owners of the embankments may acquire to alluvial lands accreting to their estates, the following enactments are hereby extended to such embankments in the Sundarbans as abut on navigable rivers, namely :—"

Mr Beatson Bell; Babu S. N. Banerji

He said:—

"My Lord, it should be observed that by section 1 of Ben. Act II of 1882 the Sundarbans was excluded from the operation of that Act. The exclusion was not simply accidental, but it was deliberately done with a view to encourage the reclamation of the Sundarbans. This part of the province, as is well known, is covered with jungles and infested with wild beasts. And on account of the various ramifications of channels, creeks and watercourses it is frequently liable to be inundated with floods of salt water which render the lands unfit for cultivation. The Sundarbans therefore from its peculiar condition was and ought to be differently treated from other parts of the province, not only to induct lessees upon the lands but also to render the lands properly culturable. Unless the amendment be accepted the enforcement of the Bill, if it pass into law as it is, will seriously affect not only the position of the grantees but also that of the Government themselves. It will interfere with the terms of the lease which the Government have granted, the first condition being 'that one-fourth of the entire area leased shall be for ever exempted from assessment as an estimated allowance for unassessable area, such as that occupied by watercourses, creeks, tanks, roads, the space required for the construction of the lessee's embankments, dams, towers, &c., etc., and for irreclaimable waste lands.'

The reason given in the Statement of Objects and Reasons for the introduction of the Bill is—'cultivators in that tract have accordingly been in the habit of erecting such embankments with the object of excluding the tidal spill in areas in which the land has not been raised, by the natural deposit of silt, to the mean level of the high water of the spring and neap tides, and great deterioration of the tidal channels, as well as of the natural drainage of the country has resulted.' But as a matter of fact the lessees and the cultivators, as a general practice, do not construct any embankment on fluvial accretions unless and until they are well formed and elevated enough to prevent the newly-constructed embankment being swept away by tidal waves, otherwise the expenses incurred by them will be a sheer waste of money and the trouble undergone and the labour devoted would be totally lost.

Another result of the Bill will be that it will be detrimental to the vested interest of the lessee. If the embankments and their control go over to Government then the lessee will be deprived of his ordinary right of the owner to an accretion when his lands abut on a navigable river, as the rivers in the Sundarbans often change their beds. Thus he will suffer a double loss namely, his crops and his right to accreted land."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said:—

"My Lord, I should like to ask a question with reference to some of the observations which have been made by the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha. Is it a fact, and the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will probably be able to make a statement, that if this Bill becomes the law of the land it will interfere with vested rights, the rights which have been guaranteed by the terms of the leases granted to the lessees by Government. I think in legislation we must have a sacred care of all vested rights. The interests of the community may perhaps make it necessary to encroach upon vested rights, but I think that must be done with the greatest caution and an absolutely overwhelming case must be made out before an encroachment of the kind can be allowed either in law or justice. I should like to hear the remarks of the Hon'ble Member in charge with regard to that particular point.

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL said:—

"My Lord, the amendment which has just been moved is in two parts. The Hon'ble Member wants to add the words 'subject to the condition that such extension shall not affect any right which the owners of the embankments may acquire to alluvial lands accreting to their estates, the following enactments are hereby extended to such embankments in the Sundarbans as abut on navigable rivers.' In other words, the Hon'ble Member wants us

first, to safeguard the law regarding alluvial accretions and, secondly, to limit the application of this Act to such rivers as are navigable.

As regards the first proposal, I think I need only refer the Council to Regulation XI of 1825. That Regulation says :—'When land may be gained by gradual accession, whether from the recess of a river or from the sea, it shall be considered an increment to the tenure of the person to whose land or estate it is thus annexed, whether such land or estate be held immediately from Government by a zamindar or other superior landholder, or as a subordinate tenure by any description of under-tenant whatever.'

That is the law of the land, and we have no intention of making any alteration in that law. I may mention that in the district of Bakarganj, one portion of the district is now under the old Sundarbans Act, and the other portion under the new Sundarbans Act. But the law of alluvion which I have just quoted applies throughout the whole district. This has never been questioned by any one and never will be questioned. Government have no intention of altering the law of alluvion. We are dealing with a totally different problem. I think that disposes of the first part of the amendment.

The second part is a request that this new legislation shall be confined to such lands as abut on navigable rivers. It will simplify matters if I explain a little more clearly what is the problem before us. Bengal, as we know, consists of a network of rivers which flow down from the hills and of tracts of land between those rivers. Near the sea those tracts of land are generally very low. If it is left to nature to work its beneficent action, the river overflows its banks, silt is deposited on these lowlands, and they are gradually raised to such a height that they are suitable for cultivation. But many people have been in too great a hurry and have tried to cultivate the land before it has reached a safe height, namely, the mean between the top of the spring-tide and the top of the neap-tide. Opinions agree that that is the only safe criterion. But we have all been in too great a hurry, with the result that before these lowlands are ready for cultivation, embankments have often been erected for keeping off the water, and with it the beneficent silt which nature is pouring down. As a result, two evils have come upon us. This silt, prevented from coming to the lowlands, must go somewhere. It is deposited in the beds of rivers which are thus becoming choked up and navigation is being blocked. That is the first evil. On the inland side of the embankment the land is gradually becoming lower and lower compared with the bed of the river, till we come to a stage when it is absolutely impossible to secure the drainage of the country. In other words the country is water-logged, and the health of the population suffers. That is the second evil.

This is the opinion of a large body of engineers who have examined the question. Twenty-five years ago, Colonel McNeile—some here may still remember that brilliant Engineer—took up the question. He recorded this weighty memorandum :—

'It has for some years been realized, that in many parts of Bengal where embankments have been constructed along the margins of silt-bearing rivers, or tidal estuaries, an alteration has resulted in the comparative levels of the country on different sides of the embankment, which is becoming a source of difficulty, and even of danger.

'When these embankments, in lines along one or both sides of a river, or forming a "circuit" in the fork between the branches of a river or tidal creek, were first brought to such a state of efficiency as practically to exclude the flood or tidal water, the drainage of the "protected" area was easily arranged for by the sluices in the embankment at the sites of natural minor drainage lines, as the general level of the land was, of course, the same on both sides of the embankment ; but the well-known action of silt-bearing rivers spilling over their banks when in flood, and to a still greater degree of the influx and efflux of tidal water, heavily laden with silt, has by degrees, but steadily, raised the marginal lands between the embankments and the channels,

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as well as (within tidal influence at any rate) the beds of the channels themselves, so that the original uniformity of level has disappeared and the "protected" lands are almost everywhere, though in varying degrees, lower than formerly, as compared with the average level of the land outside and the channels into which they were drained; the difference of level being now, in some instances, so great that much difficulty is experienced in arranging for their drainage at all.'

This note of warning was sounded to us 25 years ago. But I am afraid it fell on deaf ears, and we went on much as before. The question was again taken up in a very able note by Mr. Addams-Williams in 1909. Referring specially to the lands in the Sundarbans, he wrote :—

'The effect of this reclamation is fully understood. The tides are excluded from spilling over the land, and a large volume of water is prevented from flowing up the creeks, with the result that the back flow on the ebb tide is decreased, the current diminishes and the silt carried up by the flow-tide is deposited in the creeks themselves instead of on the land, the ebb tide being too weak to create sufficient scour to wash out the whole of the silt deposited by each flow-tide. As the process of reclamation continues matters become worse and worse until the lands on both banks of the creeks are entirely reclaimed, and tidal spill is totally stopped; a dead end is then formed at the head, and the creek entirely silts up in three or four years, the bed becomes higher than the area reclaimed, and drainage is impossible, the result being that during the rains the water lies on the land which becomes water-logged; the crops are destroyed and the people to obtain a living migrate to neighbouring lots until a similar state of affairs is established, when they again have to move on. This is what is actually taking place now.

Mr. Addams-Williams goes on to mention a number of concrete cases which he saw with his own eyes, and I cannot better summarise the situation than by quoting a note recorded a few days ago by the Hon'ble Mr. Cowley :—

'To reclaim lowlands by shutting off the tidal spill is no doubt beneficial to the lessee who looks only for present pecuniary profit from his holding or grant, but the effect of his present action is to hand down to posterity a water-logged, insanitary, ill-drained, and consequently profitless inheritance.'

That is the state of affairs which has been brought to the notice of Government, and I think the Council will agree that we would have been acting criminally if we had taken no action on the reports which are before us. I thoroughly agree with the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji in thinking that even though the evil be very great, we must have scrupulous respect for existing contracts. I have examined all the existing leases, but I could not find a single clause in a single lease which gave the lessees an unrestricted right to make embankments. The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha has quoted one of these leases, but I think the Council will be unanimously of opinion that there is nothing in that lease which gives an unrestricted right of making embankments. All that the lease says is that, in consideration of embankments and other unreclaimed land, Government will give 25 per cent. of the land rent free. That is very far from saying that the lessee has an unrestricted right of making embankments, in fact that has nothing to do with the question. Other leases are absolutely silent on the subject of embankments, while in the most recent leases—those of the raiyatwari tracts in Bakarganj—it is distinctly assumed that Government will exercise full control in respect of all embankments.

I can therefore assure my hon'ble friend that we are not violating a single clause of a single lease. If we were, I would not be here supporting the Bill.

Then there is another point regarding the legal position, which I think has been overlooked. It is sometimes assumed that these lands belong to

the lessees. This is very far from being the case. Throughout the Sundarbans Government are themselves the zamindar and are the party chiefly interested in the prosperity of the tracts. So long ago as 1828, it was distinctly laid down as follows :—

'The uninhabited tract known by the name of the Sundarbans has ever been, and is hereby declared still to be, the property of the State : the same not having been alienated or assigned to zamindars, or included in any way in the arrangements of the perpetual settlement, it shall therefore be competent to the Local Government to make, as heretofore, grants, assignments and leases of any part of the said Sundarbans, and to take such measures for the clearance and cultivation of the tract as it may deem proper and expedient.'

All that we are doing now is to take certain measures which we deem 'proper and expedient,' for the cultivation of these tracts. Well, that is the main position regarding the legal aspect of the case and regarding the difficulties with which we are faced, and which we are honestly trying to remove.

The Hon'ble Raja has asked us to confine our operations to the banks of those streams which are navigable. I think every gentleman of the legal profession here will agree with me that it is extraordinarly difficult to define the word 'navigable.' I had occasion some twelve years ago to look into the question judicially. Many Acts and rulings were put before me, but they all seemed to come back to this : that a navigable river is a river which is navigable. Perhaps the most helpful authority is Ulpian, the old Roman jurist, who laid down that every river is to be considered navigable upon which a raft can float. This is very much the same indication as we find in the Bengal Canals Act of 1864. This Act, it is true, refrains from laying down what is a navigable canal, but it defines 'vessels' as follows :—

'the word "vessel" shall include any ship, barge, boat, raft, timber bamboos or floating materials, propelled in any manner'

In other words, our own Canals Act practically agrees with the dictum of Ulpian. Now, it is well known that rafts can float in almost every creek of the Sundarbans. If therefore we confine this Bill to navigable rivers, there is practically no restriction at all, and the Raja's amendment will be a dead letter. Apart from this we cannot, as a matter of principle, accept the amendment. Supposing it means that Government should restrict *bunds* on big rivers but allow them on small rivers, the result would be that the country instead of having one big *bund* would be corrugated with a network of small ones and the drainage would be as bad as ever. That being so, I must ask the Council not to accept the amendment which has been proposed by the Hon'ble Member."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said :—

"After the explanation given by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, I beg to withdraw the amendment."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motions Nos. 2 and 3. The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, with the permission of the President, moved the following two amendments together :—

2. For clause 2(2) of the Bill the following be substituted, namely :—

"(2) the Bengal Embankment Act, 1882, except—

(*a*) sections 38, 39 and 40 and such portions of section 18(*b*) and section 76(*b*) as relate to the erection of new embankments, and

(*b*) such portions of the Act as have been repealed."

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Clause 3.

3. For clause 3 *I* of the Bill, the following be substituted, namely:—

"3 *I*. The Bengal Embankment Act, 1855, except sections 7 and 12, and the Bengal Embankment Act, 1866, are hereby repealed.

He said:—

"The construction of embankments by cultivators and lessees in the Sundarbans is an absolute necessity. Good outturn of crops depends upon rain water; and its preservation is necessary for the safety of the crops. If the Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, be passed into law, then under section 76 of the Act of 1882 the cultivator or lessee constructing any embankment, however small it may be, without the previous permission of the Collector, for the safety of his crops, would be liable to punishment. When leases were granted for the Sundarban lands the lessees were led to believe by the terms of their leases that they would be at liberty to do anything upon their lands including the construction of embankments, for the preservation of their crops. In fact it was not then in the contemplation of Government to interfere in their construction, and the lessees were led to cherish that belief by the express exclusion of the Sundarbans from the operation of the Embankment Act of 1882. Any interference now would be construed as a violation of contractual rights and cannot be justified on any ground. If the lessees or cultivators be referred to the Collector on every occasion for constructing an embankment, the latter may, without any proper knowledge of the locality and trusting only to Police reports, refuse their applications after putting them to considerable inconvenience, trouble and expense. It will be considered a great hardship by them, and it is quite conceivable that this provision will have the effect of scaring away lessees and cultivators whose only hope of undergoing trouble and expense for the reclamation of lands lies on a good outturn of crops. Moreover, it would not be possible to approach the Collector conveniently either by the zamindar or by the cultivators in every case where new embankments will have to be erected, and this will surely act as a clog to the improvement of waste and jungle lands and thereby retard or stop all progress.

It may be argued that, under section 6 of Ben. Act II of 1882, the Government may by notification include a small portion of the Sundarbans within which the provisions of clause (*b*) of section 76 shall take effect, but this notification even in a restricted way will have the effect of turning a smiling cultivated tract into a jungle without doing any good to navigable rivers which are getting silted up or have silted up, unless Government are prepared to spend a large sum of money by dredging them up which I do not think is feasible.

As regards my amendment to sub-clause (*1*) of clause 3 of the Bill, sections 7 and 12 of the Bengal Embankment Act of 1855 confer two valuable rights. The first gives the lessees power to appoint their own arbitrator for determining the amount of compensation where the claim is admitted by the Revenue authorities, but where it is rejected he has not been deprived of his right to bring a civil action. These rights have not been given by Ben. Act II of 1882. By section 12 the determination of the value of houses, huts and buildings is left to a jury of three respectable inhabitants who have a thorough knowledge of the locality. They are also empowered by the Act to decide the disputed rights of claimants. These two sections provide for the obtaining of speedy justice which is very desirable and which is much appreciated by the public. They are preferable to those sections of Ben. Act II of 1882 which leave the determination of claims for compensation to the Collector under the Land Acquisition Act."

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL said:—

"My Lord, I may say at once that Government are not prepared to accept the two amendments which have been proposed. These two amendments have very properly been taken as one. Here also, as in our last

discussion, there are two points at issue. The first request of the Hon'ble Member is that we should not take power in regard to new embankments. Well, that is the main point at issue. Under the present law, we are allowed to remove embankments which are doing harm, but we have no power to come in at the initial stage and say that an embankment shall not be erected, and it is just because we have now no power to interfere at the initial stage that we are introducing this Bill. It is only common sense, and only fair to all parties concerned, that if we object to an embankment we should do it before it is erected and before people have gone to the trouble and expense of putting it up. I can assure the Hon'ble mover that Government have no intention to act unreasonably in this matter; if the land is fit for cultivation, we shall never refuse an embankment; but if it is unfit for cultivation, if a man desires to put up an embankment which will be a curse to posterity, it is only fair that we should have the power in the Sundarbans, as we have in the rest of Bengal, to say that this embankment shall not be erected until nature has done its work. That is why we cannot accept the proposal that new embankments should be excluded from the Bill.

The other proposal that has been put forward is briefly this: that when we find it necessary to remove an embankment we should give compensation under the old Act of 1855 and not under the new Act of 1882. The new Act lays down that the procedure shall be the ordinary procedure of the Land Acquisition Act: that is to say, the Collector first makes his award showing how much damage has been done to the parties. If they are dissatisfied with the Collector's decision, they have a right of appeal to the District Judge, and if they are dissatisfied with the decision of the District Judge, they can go to the High Court, and the High Court will give what is almost—though not altogether—a final decision. I believe that part of the desire to avoid the Land Acquisition Act is based on the assumption that the Land Acquisition Act does not provide an appeal to the Privy Council. Well, that is rather a difficult legal question. An appeal was disallowed in a recent case, but I think that all that was laid down was that there is no appeal as of right. It is quite conceivable that some case may yet find its way to the Privy Council. But apart from that, just because of this real or supposed facility of getting to the Privy Council—does the Hon'ble Member seriously desire to go back to the Act of 1855? I am not sure that he has studied this Act very thoroughly before he made his proposal. He assumes, I suppose, that most Collectors are benevolently inclined, but that there may be a few who are executively minded and who may act in an unreasonable spirit. He is therefore anxious that the law should be so worded that it can curb the zeal of these executively-minded Collectors. But such a Collector proceeding under the Act of 1855 can, I am sure, take far more drastic measures than a Collector proceeding under the Act of 1882. As I have just shown, in every case under the Act of 1882, there is an appeal to the District Judge, and to the High Court, and the Collector cannot possibly block the way, however much he may be inclined to do so. Under the Act of 1855, on the other hand, the Collector can obstruct the landlord at every turn. I strongly advise my friend not to rush light-heartedly into the Act of 1855."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, interrupting, said:—

"But there are arbitrators."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL, continuing, said:—

"Yes: I am coming to that. Under the Act of 1855, when the claim for damages is put forward before the Collector, he can do one of two things. Supposing my friend the Hon'ble Raja alleges that he has been damaged to the extent of a lakh of rupees and puts in a petition to the Collector. It is open to the Collector to reject the petition outright, and to say that the Raja has not suffered a penny of loss. If he does that, I quite admit that the Raja has a full right to go to the Civil Court and possibly up to the Privy Council. But our friend, the executively-minded Collector, is not going to be so simple as to do that. He has only to record a finding to the effect that the Raja has

suffered a loss not of one lakh of rupees, but of, let us say, a thousand rupees. In that case the Raja has to wait until the procedure by arbitration has been fully worked out. Under that procedure, the Collector nominates one arbitrator and the Raja nominates another. Suppose the Raja nominates the Hon'ble Mr. B. Chakravarti; the Collector very likely will then nominate his senior Deputy Collector—there is nothing against this in the Act. The Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti and the senior Deputy Collector then sit together and try to appoint a third arbitrator, but each side has full right to object to the nominations of the other side. The nominations of Mr. Chakravarti will probably be rejected by the Deputy Collector, and the nominations of the Deputy Collector will probably be rejected by the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti—both sides acting in perfect good faith. In that way, a week will pass and what happens then? The law lays down that if the two arbitrators neglect to appoint a third arbitrator within a period of 7 days after having been required to do so, the Collector may himself appoint the third arbitrator. The three arbitrators then sit together and by a majority of two to one assess the damages at ten thousand rupees, instead of one lakh claimed by the Raja. The Raja is naturally somewhat dissatisfied with this decision and would like to go to the High Court and to the Privy Council, but I am afraid he is absolutely debarred from doing so unless he can show that the arbitrators were guilty of corruption or misconduct. Even if the Raja is able to show that these arbitrators acted in a spirit of corruption and misconduct, he only gets a decree to that effect. He gets no decision as to the proper amount of compensation. He has then to begin the arbitration all over again, fresh arbitrators being appointed in the same manner as before. I am sure, therefore, that the Hon'ble Raja and his friends will be much better advised to stick to the ordinary Land Acquisition Act under which they have a full right of appeal on every occasion to the District Judge and to the High Court. For these reasons, my Lord, I would strongly advise my friend, the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, not to press these amendments."

The amendments were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

The following amendment was also, by leave of the President, withdrawn:—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 4.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that clause 3(2) of the Bill be omitted.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 6.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved that the Bengal Embankment (Sundarbans) Bill, 1915, be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE CALCUTTA PORT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1915.

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 6A TO 6D.

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL moved for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Calcutta Port Act, 1890.

He said:—

"My Lord, the Bill has been circulated to Hon'ble Members, and I hope it will be quite non-contentious. It is really a formal matter. Under section 31 of the Calcutta Port Act, the Commissioners may determine the conditions under which their 'officers and servants' shall, on retirement, receive pensions, gratuities or compassionate allowances, and also the amount of such pensions, etc. But it has been held by our legal advisers that it is very doubtful whether the Vice-Chairman comes under the definition of 'officers or servants.' All who know the working of the Port Act know that the hardest worker on the staff is the Vice-Chairman. He gives up the whole of

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his time to the work, and it has hitherto been assumed both by the Vice-Chairman and by the Port Commissioners themselves, that on the retirement of the Vice-Chairman they could give him a suitable retiring pension. In fact, the case has always been thought to be analogous to that of the Calcutta Corporation where the wholetime Vice-Chairman is entitled to a pension. A labourer is not only worthy of his hire, but he is worthy of something to keep body and soul together after retirement in his old age. It is to make this clear that we have introduced this Bill."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell, in moving His Excellency the President to suspend the Rules of Business to admit of the Bill being taken into consideration, said as follows :—

"The Council will naturally want to know why it is proposed that this Bill, even though it is so simple and non-contentious, should be passed in a hurry. That is a very natural and very reasonable question. The answer is simply this, that we are all agreed that to legislate with retrospective effect, especially in a personal matter of this nature, is a most objectionable procedure. Well, the Council will remember that Sir Frederick Dumayne, who was a member of this Council, has gone home on leave preparatory to retirement. He went home with the hope and on the understanding that a suitable pension would be given to him on his retirement; but it has come upon us as a bombshell that the Port Commissioners cannot, as the law now stands, give him a penny. He is about to retire, actually on the 18th of this month, and if we defer the consideration of this Bill and take it up in the usual course, Sir Frederick Dumayne will have retired and then we shall be in the very undesirable position of legislating with retrospective effect to meet his case. It is simply in order to avoid this very objectionable practice that I ask that the Bill should be taken into consideration at once. There is no real danger that the Port Commissioners will misuse the power to be given them by this Bill and will give an unreasonably large pension to any Vice-Chairman; but to make this absolutely clear we have inserted the following salutary words, namely—

> (*a*) 'provided that the amount of such pension, gratuity or compassionate allowance shall in no case, without the special sanction of the Government of India, exceed what would be admissible in the case of Government servants, of similar standing and status, and
>
> (*b*) the conditions aforesaid shall not, without similar sanction, be more favourable than those for the time being prescribed for such Government servants.'

That is to say, the pension of the Vice-Chairman will be entirely under the control of the Civil Service Regulations and no fancy pension can be given to him."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"How did you deal with previous Vice-Chairmen?"

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL (after consulting the Hon'ble Mr. Stevenson-Moore) replied :—

"They were all Government servants and they got their pensions from Government."

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"I declare the rules suspended, as desired."

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell then moved that the Bill be taken into consideration.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell also moved that the Bill be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan; Babu S. N. Banerji.

THE CALCUTTA IMPROVEMENT AMENDMENT) BILL, 1915.

LIST OF BUSINESS - ITEMS Nos. 7 AND 8.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Calcutta Improvement Amendment) Bill, 1915, be taken into consideration.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"The next motion (No. 8) was to have been moved by the Hon'ble Maharaja of Nashipur, but as he is absent from Council to-day, I am prepared, at his request, to allow the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan to move the motion instead as a special case."

The Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan then moved, by way of amendment to Motion No. 7, that the consideration of the Bill, as amended by the Select Committee, be deferred till the Autumn Session of the Council.

He said :—

"My Lord, on behalf of the Hon'ble Maharaja of Nashipur, I beg to move by way of amendment, Motion No. 7, that the consideration of the Bill as amended by the Select Committee be deferred till the Autumn Session of the Council, and in doing so, I beg to observe that I do not think that this postponement will in any way hamper the hands of the Improvement Trust. I am always, as a rule, opposed to shoving down the throats of an unwilling public a piece of legislation which is not beyond the pale of controversy; and of which there is doubt, and grave doubt, in certain quarters as to the advisability of certain of its provisions, and I think that at a time like the present it would be advisable to postpone all legislation of a nature which is likely to give rise to heated discussions in Council. I beg, therefore, to move this amendment, and trust that Your Excellency and Your Excellency's Government will be pleased to accede to it."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I desire to associate myself with the motion which has been moved by the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan. My Lord, we are a subordinate Council and I think that in matters of principle, we ought to follow the lead of the Imperial Council. The lead which the Imperial Council had given us in this matter, is the avoidance of all controversial legislation on an occasion like this. I think that we should follow the example of the Imperial Council and I may say this, as a member of that Council, that this principle has been most scrupulously followed at the instance of His Excellency the Viceroy. As my friend has pointed out, there is a great difference of opinion with regard to this matter, and this Bill is likely to give rise to heated agitation and controversy, not only within these walls, but outside as well. The Bill will be taken up by the press, discussions will be started, controversies will rage and passions roused and excited, and all this is most undesirable at the present moment. What are the arguments on the other side of the case? If the Bill is postponed for a few months, will anything serious happen? I suppose Calcutta will go on as before and the administration will move on in its accustomed course without any hitch, and I do not think that any cataclysm of a fearful nature will take place. In view, therefore, of the precedent and the example set by the Imperial Council, and in view of the exigencies of the present situation, and, I think, of the clear demand of public opinion and that of the opinions of ratepayers of Calcutta, I do submit that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill should agree to the postponement of this Bill. Nothing will be lost by the acceptance of this amendment, but on the other hand the passage of the Bill will be facilitated by the support of the public."

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur; The President; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I desire to know whether I am competent to speak after the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has spoken on the motion, and also after my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas has spoken. I should like to follow them. If not, I will speak now with Your Excellency's permission.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"I am afraid I cannot give an assurance to the effect that you may speak after the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I desire to associate myself with the motion that has been moved by my friend the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan. My Lord, though public opinion is very acute and keen, yet, having regard to the troublous times through which we are passing, we consider it wise to restrain ourselves. The public of Calcutta met at a Conference, in the rooms of the British Indian Association, which was presided over by the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, and I am sure the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur has really expressed the public opinion on the subject when he has said that there is a strong public feeling against this measure. The previous speaker, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji, has laid stress on the fact that the Government of India, and not only the Government of India but the Home Government also, has expressed the wish that no controversial matters should be taken up at the present time. Unfortunately, My Lord, this piece of legislation is the subject of keen controversy between the Government and the public, and I am sure the Government would do well to accede to the request which the public have made through their spokesman, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji, and especially through their President, the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan. My Lord, the time will soon come when the Calcutta Improvement Act will require revision, and I am sure, having regard to the acuteness of feeling in regard to the operations of the said Act, the Government of Bengal, with deference to that public opinion, will soon take up the Act for revision, and it would be better, and more suitable, and very gratifying to the public at large, that this piece of legislation be taken up when the entire Act is taken up for revision. If not, at least this Bill should be postponed for a few months in order that the public may be in a position to acquaint Government respectfully and humbly with all their views on the subject. The public are not in a mood, my Lord, at the present time to give expression, in the emphatic manner which the occasion demands, to their views and opinions on the subject, and there is a general feeling not to embarrass the Government in any way at this supreme crisis. Therefore, we have felt it our duty through our President, the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, and others, to approach Your Excellency with the prayer that the Bill might be postponed for a few months. My Lord, if I may be permitted to give expression to the popular opinion and to the keen feeling of my community, there is one fact which comes uppermost in their minds, and that is, the operation of sections 78 and 81 of the Calcutta Improvement Act. My Lord, the operation of section 78 of the Improvement Act, whereby large and extensive areas of land are taken within the zone of acquisition, quite outside the road line, has caused widespread dissatisfaction in the community, and, my Lord, this section 78 gives absolute power to the Board without any appeal to any authority as regards the mode and imposition of the exemption fee. If I may be permitted to draw Your Excellency's attention, I would point out some of the salient facts in regard to some of the improvement schemes."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA, interrupting, said :—

"My Lord, I rise to a point of order. I do not think my friend can discuss the provisions of section 78 and other sections of the Improvement Act in connection with this motion for the postponement of the Bill."

The President: Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur: Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri: Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray: Mr. Stewart: Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda: Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"I must say I cannot see any relevancy between the working of these sections and the motion under discussion."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR, continuing, said :—

"My Lord, I bow to Your Excellency's ruling. I was simply explaining the reasons which have led me to support the motion of my friend the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan. However, my Lord, I will not go into details, but those details would have been very interesting to the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. I think, my Lord, that all that I need say is that this very modest representation of the community should meet with a suitable response at the hands of the Government, and I hope, my Lord, now that I am precluded from stating the reasons at length, that the Government will appreciate that there are good reasons for this motion."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR, said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support the amendment which has been moved by the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan."

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY said :—

"My Lord, I fully support the amendment. It will not in any way hamper the work of the offices of the Calcutta Improvement Trust. They have already got sufficient work in their hands which will last for some months more, and as the outside public are for further consideration of the matter, I believe there cannot possibly be any objection to postponing it for a few months more."

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART said :—

"My Lord, without going into the *pros* and *cons* of the matter now under discussion might I make a remark with reference to a suggestion which has emanated from the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji. He said that it would be a good thing to follow the example of the Imperial Legislative Council. But it seems to me that this would be a very dangerous proposition to adopt. It must be remembered that the Imperial Legislative Council has an official majority whereas in this Council the majority is non-official, and if we were to carry the Hon'ble Mr. Banerji's proposal to its logical conclusion we might almost as well have no Council at all. I am a little surprised that this proposal should have been made by such a champion of democratic liberty as my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Banerji."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"I am sorry that I have to oppose this motion. The motion is based on two grounds. One is that we should follow the example of the Imperial Legislative Council and the other is.....

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN, interrupting, said :—

"May I correct the Hon'ble Member? I did not say anything about following the Imperial Council."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA, interrupting, said :—

"Some of the speakers have stated that as one of the reasons. As regards following the example of the Government of India, I do not think we need follow it and the hon'ble the mover himself repudiates it. The Government of India have laid down no rigid principle which we must follow. In every case we have to consider and decide ourselves whether we ought to abandon a particular measure for fear that it might create excitement and embarrass the Government. So far as this Bill is concerned, it is of local application. Its operation is confined within the limits of the Calcutta Municipality and municipalities within the neighbourhood of

Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

Calcutta. It goes no further. I know some meetings were held in which certain resolutions were passed. Beyond that we have not received any proof of any serious opposition to this Bill. It has been said that if time is given, probably the passage of the Bill through the Council will be facilitated. My Lord, I can say this with confidence, that in the Select Committee we have made very large concessions with reference to this Bill. One very important part of this Bill we dropped out of deference to the wishes of the non-official members of the Select Committee. That apparently has not facilitated the passage of the Bill through the Council and I doubt that, if an adjournment is given, it would facilitate the passage. The Bill lays down no new principle, at least nothing of a very important character. The main principles of the Bill are to be found either in the Calcutta Improvement Act or in the Calcutta Municipal Act—in the Calcutta Improvement Act—with reference to municipalities in the neighbourhood of Calcutta—and in the Calcutta Municipal Act with reference to the area within the municipal limits. So it is not anything new that we are bringing forward before this Council. I do not think, therefore, that this Bill is of such a character that it would be of any advantage postponing it at the present moment. Sufficient time has been given for its consideration and much time was spent in the Select Committee in going through this Bill and many alterations have been made. My hon'ble friend Babu Surendra Nath Banerji said that the postponement of the Bill will do no harm, that Calcutta will go on as usual in spite of the postponement. I may say, my Lord, with equal certainty, that if this Bill were passed, Calcutta would go on as usual in spite of the Bill. I feel therefore bound to oppose this motion."

The Hon'ble THE MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN said :—

"My Lord, I am afraid, I must press my motion. The Nawab Sahib has said that no new argument has been brought forward by us for postponing this Bill. We on this side of the House think that Government have also brought forward no new argument. The real truth is that Government have made up their minds to proceed with the Bill before the Council and they have got a very strong President of the Improvement Trust who wants to have this Bill passed soon. All we can do is to press our motion and thereby record our protest against its passing at such a time. I beg to press for a division."

A division was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes—18.	*Noes—22.*
The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.	The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.
,, ,, Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.	,, ,, Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell, C.I.E.
,, ,, Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.	,, ,, Mr. J. G. Cumming, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. Golam Hossein Cassim Ariff.	,, ,, Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.I.E.
,, ,, Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.	,, ,, Mr. H. L. Stephenson, C.I.E.
,, ,, Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, C.I.E.	,, ,, Mr. H. F. Samman.
,, ,, Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.	,, Mr. H. H. Green.
,, ,, Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.	,, ,, Mr. F. A. A. Cowley.
,, ,, Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.	,, ,, Mr. B. B. Newbould.
,, ,, Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.	,, ,, Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
,, ,, Babu Upendra Lal Ray.	,, ,, Mr. B. C. Mitra.
,, ,, Maulvi Musharraf Hussain.	,, ,, Mr. H. J. Hilary.
,, ,, Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.	,, ,, Rai Priya Nath Mukherji Bahadur.
,, ,, Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray.	,, ,, Surgeon-General G. F. A. Harris, C.S.I.
,, Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad Amir-ul-Omrah, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.	,, ,, Mr. C. F. Payne.
,, ,, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.	,, ,, Mr. C. H. Bompas.
,, ,, Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.	,, ,, Mr. W. W. Hornell.
,, ,, Mr. G. A. Bayley.	,, ,, Mr. F. J. Monahan.
	,, ,, Mr. W. T. Grice.
	,, ,, Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.
	,, ,, Mr. E. H. Bray.
	,, ,, Mr. F. H. Stewart.

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.

The following members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.
" " Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.
" " Nawab Saiyid Hossain Haider Chaudhuri Khan Bahadur
" " Maulvi A. K. Fazul Haq.
" " Rai Prasanna Kumar Ray Bahadur.
" " Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.
" " Sir Satyendra Prasanna Sinha, Kt.
" " Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray
" " Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti
" " Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.
" " Mr. R. Glen

The Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri abstained from voting.

The Ayes being 18 and the Noes 22, the motion was lost.

The President then declared Motion No. 8 to be lost and Motion No. 7 to be carried.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 9.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda moved that the clauses of the Bill be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The motion was put and agreed to.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS.

[At the suggestion of the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda Motion No. 5 in the List of Amendments was taken up before Motion No. 1.]

Clause 3.

Proposed new section 63 (1).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 5.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that the words "and building line (if any)" in lines 8 and 9 of sub-section (1) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) be omitted.

He said :—

"Provision for a building line was not included in the original Bill. On the contrary, the original Bill provided for the repeal of the expression 'building line' from the Act. It has, however, been re-inserted in the Bill by the majority of the Select Committee. The real object of the Bill is to empower the Board to prescribe projected public streets with a view to prevent buildings being erected before the maturity of any Improvement Scheme, but the Bill as amended by the Select Committee goes very much beyond the original object of the Bill. The Corporation when it was consulted on the subject had before it the proposal to empower the Board only to prescribe projected public streets within the area of the Calcutta Municipality and there was no proposal to invest the Board with the power to prescribe building line. A projected public street may be 100 feet in width, and to call upon the owners of properties, many of whom stick to their old ancestral holdings with the fervour of religion, to further set back any building in the rear of the street alignment to a depth of as many feet (it may be 20, 30 or even 50 feet), as the Board may direct, would be inflicting the greatest hardship upon owners of properties especially the owners of small holdings. It may be that, in not a few cases, the residue of the land, after giving up the portion required for the projected public street and the portion to be left open between the street alignment and the main wall of a building in conformity to

the building line, will be practically useless for a suitable building. It will mean absolute destruction to owners of small plots who will be rendered homeless. The Board has got the power to align streets of any width under the Calcutta Improvement Act. What is the necessity then of the additional power to prescribe a building line? Both for purposes of better facilities for traffic and ventilation a street may be prescribed of as much width as may appear necessary. Again for purposes of ventilation the Corporation have the building regulations prescribing one-third or two-thirds open space in each holding in areas where attached and detached buildings are allowed. There is therefore no necessity of prescribing building lines for purposes of providing open spaces. From an æsthetic point of view it is hardly practicable to have the main walls of all the buildings abutting on a street built at an uniform distance from the street alignment. If the building line is prescribed say 10 feet away from the street alignment different owners might build their houses leaving different spaces between their buildings and the street alignment. One may leave 10, another may leave 15, another may leave 30 feet. Is it not therefore better and more equitable to acquire land outright for a projected public street, and reserve a certain portion, if necessary, in the rear of the actual road line for garden plots, or pleasure walks, etc., such as is provided in Camac Street, Circular Road and in many other streets in the European quarter of the town? In Russa Road where the Improvement Trust have acquired land for 100 and 150 feet roadway the Board propose to have on two sides of the street a garden walk planted by rows of trees. The ornamentation and beautification of projected public streets can best be attained in this way without further encroachment upon the holdings of land-owners, the vast majority of whom are poor middle class people.

There is no provision for a building line in the Bombay Improvement Act, and they have not been hampered in carrying out the improvement scheme, and have not sought for the amendment of the Act in this respect. So far as I have been able to ascertain there is no provision for a building line in the English Town Planning Act. Having regard to these facts and the strong public opposition to this proposal, and the divergence of opinion in the Select Committee, I hope the Government will be pleased to omit this provision, and to accept my amendment."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support the amendment a similar one to which also stands in my name. The definition of 'building line' is not at all necessary. Power should not be given to the Calcutta Improvement Trust to prescribe building lines in rear of street alignments. On principle the power to prescribe building lines should rest with the Calcutta Corporation which has also the power to control the erection of buildings. I do not know for what purpose this authority should be vested in the Improvement Trust. If it were for pulling down unwholesome houses and keeping the front of the buildings well ventilated then this power would be superfluous. Already under the Building Regulations of the Calcutta Corporation the owners of houses have to leave open one-third space and side spaces in erecting new buildings in order to make them airy and sanitary, and it would be a gross injustice to them if they were again called upon to leave further open spaces in the rear of the street alignment.

In the discussion that followed on the Calcutta Improvement Bill in 1911, my Hon'ble friend Mr. Bompas said, 'Calcutta has to be brought up to date, and presumably the duty lies on the owners of the land and buildings in Calcutta to bring Calcutta up to date. They have a moral duty as regards the disposal of their property.' The landlords of Calcutta believed that their moral duty was satisfied when they were deprived of the additional compensation of 15 per cent. which is usually paid to all people in Bengal whose lands and houses are acquired under the Land Acquisition Act. They will pay about 75 lakhs, considerably more than the Government of India's contribution of 50 lakhs, and if they were again called upon to make a sacrifice

Babu S. N. Ray : Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray : Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.

by leaving open a certain amount of space ranging say from 5 to 50 feet, the numerous small holdings would be swept away and the middle class people would be the greatest sufferers. The general line of building should follow the street alignment and it would be sufficient if the houses were built in a row. No objection could be taken to building lines in undeveloped areas where there would be no difficulty in keeping open spaces between the street alignment and the building, but this would not be feasible in Calcutta. As the provision now stands, it would operate very harshly upon small owners of property and its omission therefore is in every way desirable."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, I have only a few words to add to what has already been said by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur and the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has told us just now that substantial amendments proposed by the non-official members have been accepted by him in the Select Committee. This is a fact and we are very grateful to him and to the other official members for their having accepted our amendments. But if our amendments have been accepted, there has also been an attempt to tighten the grip of the Trust on the question of the building line which was first proposed in the Select Committee. May I explain how poor house-owners will be affected by this proposal? Suppose a man has only 6 cottahs of land. He can manage to build a house on it. Under the regulations of the Calcutta Corporation he has to leave about one-third of his land before he can build his house. That leaves him about 4 cottahs. Under the provisions of the new Act, he will have to leave another one-third of his land as vacant, so it comes to this—that a man owning 6 cottahs of land, he will be allowed to build only on two cottahs. And if he wants to sell his land he will receive only the value of 2 cottahs of land. This places the owner of small properties in a not very enviable position. With these words I support the amendment moved by my Hon'ble friend Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur."

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY said :—

"My Lord, I was in the Select Committee when the question was discussed threadbare and we insisted upon deleting the words 'building line.' It will be a great hardship to the small holders if they are compelled to leave more land than what they are already required to do under the Municipal Act." I fully agree with the previous speakers that it will cause real hardship, and I support the amendment."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I have to oppose this amendment. Before I give my reasons, I wish to offer an explanation as to why the building line was omitted from the Bill as originally drafted and had to be inserted in the Select Committee. I believe, if in the original Bill we had kept the building line, our troubles would have been much less here. What happened was this. As I said when opposing the motion for adjournment, the provision about the building line within the Calcutta Municipality exists in the Calcutta Municipal Act and in the neighbourhood of the Calcutta Municipality in section 63 of the Improvement Act. It was considered when the Bill was originally drafted that the building line within the Calcutta Municipality should be dealt with by the General Committee of the Corporation, because section 356 of the Calcutta Municipal Act lays down that the General Committee may from time to time prepare schemes and plans of proposed public streets showing the direction of such streets, the street alignment and the building-line, etc. It was, however, discovered that although the General Committee could lay down a building line, it could only do so with reference to schemes framed by that committee, and that if the Improvement Trust projected a street, it would not be open to the General Committee to lay down the building line. It was also felt that the provision for a building line as a matter of fact existed with reference

to municipalities in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, in section 63 of the Improvement Act, and there was no reason why it should not be extended to Calcutta also. These are the reasons why in the Bill as originally drafted there was no provision about the building line and how it came to be inserted in the Select Committee.

A proposal has been made that the building line should go out altogether and arguments have been put forward in support of that proposal. I do not think, my Lord, I need be drawn into the discussion whether it is right to lay down a building line or not. The building line was deliberately adopted by the legislature on more than one occasion, once in framing section 356 of the Calcutta Municipal Act and another time in section 63 of the Improvement Act. I therefore do not desire to enter into the justification for prescribing a building line at all. We are only giving the Trust the power that is now divided between the Trust and the Calcutta Municipality. I think the arguments against the building line are hardly of any great force and would not have been pressed at all if we had not made the mistake of dropping the building line from the original Bill. With these remarks I oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, the words 'building line' were, as has been clearly and lucidly explained by the Hon'ble Member in charge, omitted from the original Bill, and they were omitted with the sanction of the Government of India. My Lord, I am not a lawyer, neither am I conversant with the procedure of Government, but I think when a particular provision was omitted with the sanction of the Government of India, when the Government of India gave its permission for the introduction of the Bill, I do not know whether the Select Committee was quite competent to re-insert it. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, my Lord, has correctly stated that he does not want to enter into the merits of the question, because if I understood him aright in Select Committee"—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"Proceedings in Select Committee are confidential and they should not be referred to in discussions in this Council."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR, continuing, said :—

"I apologise, my Lord. The Hon'ble Member has stated that in the municipalities in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, the original section 63 contained the words 'building line' and I think, my Lord, this is a correct statement of facts, but what I want to point out is that the Government very wisely and deliberately omitted these words, because in the outlying areas of the Calcutta Municipality it is quite possible for the Trust to open out roads of sufficient width as will not only provide sufficient means of traffic and sufficient room for ventilation, etc., but also sufficient space for having avenues and gardens or something like that. What has the Improvement Trust done in portions of Russa Road? They have taken up land, excluding surplus land for the actual roadway, 150 feet in width, and it has been proposed to set apart about 60 or 65 feet for roadway and the remainder for footpaths and avenues with benches arranged for the comfort and convenience of pedestrians. But, my Lord, that is quite practicable in the outlying areas where land is cheap and where hardships will be much less felt than in the town proper. The Trust have acquired much land in this way in the southern portion of the Russa Road scheme at a cost which is stated to be *nil* in the statement which has been published. But it is different when you come to deal with land in the town proper. I think, therefore, my Lord, having regard to these facts, and also to the fact that it was stated in Select Committee by some of the members on the Government side, that the building line would not be prescribed within the town area, I think that the building line may be omitted from the proposed new section 63 (*1*)."

Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda : Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

Clause 2.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 1.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that sub-clause *(a) (aa)* of clause 2 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 2.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that sub-clause *(a) (aa)* of clause 2 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 3.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that sub-clause *(a) (aa)* of clause 2 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 4.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved :—

that in lines 3 and 4 of clause *(a) (aa)* of clause 2 the words "a street or" be omitted.

He said —

"My Lord, it will be seen that the building line means the line up to which the main wall of a building at the rear of a street or a projected street I believe, my Lord, the intention is to prescribe a building line in connection with a projected street and not on a street. A street as defined in the Calcutta Municipal Act includes both public and projected streets and therefore I do not think the Act gives power to the Board to prescribe a building line on any street, but on a projected street; that is the intention of the legislature. The words should therefore be excluded to prevent confusion in the future. It might lead to the Board assuming power to prescribe a building line in connection with existing public or private streets which it is never contemplated that the Board should do. To clear all doubts about the matter, I move for the omission of these words."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"I am glad to be able to accept this amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"I thank the Hon'ble Member."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 6.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that the words "and building line (if any)" in lines 8 and 9 of sub-section *1* of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 7.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that the words "and building line (if any)" in lines 8 and 9 of sub-section *1* of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 8.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that after the word "width" in line 10 of sub-section *(1)* of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following words be added, namely :—

"(which, in the case of streets within the Calcutta Municipality, shall in no case exceed 100 feet)."

He said :—

"My Lord, section 63 gives power to the Board to prescribe a projected public street, and I think, my Lord, now that 'building line' is retained in the Bill, there should be some restriction as regards the width of the street. I think there should be some limit. When we are legislating, I do not think that we should have anything indefinite and uncertain. I have suggested a maximum of 100 feet which, I hope, will be admitted to be a quite adequate and reasonable width. Moreover, having regard to the fact that the Board will have power to prescribe a building line on both sides of the street beyond 100 feet in the town proper, and as, my Lord, it has been generally found that a maximum width of a road has been up to date fixed at 100 feet, I submit that my proposal is a reasonable one and ought to be accepted."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I am sorry that I cannot accept this amendment. My Hon'ble friend may be right in saying that 100 feet is a very reasonable limit, and it is possible that the greater width may not in most cases be insisted upon. At the same time the question is whether there is any reason why we should tie down the hands of the Improvement Trust in this way. There is a limit in section 356 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, but the limit is just the other way. It says :—

'The width of such projected street shall not be less than 40 feet or in a bustee 20 feet inclusive of space for footpaths.

So that the Calcutta Municipal Act lays down the minimum, not the maximum; the Improvement Trust lays down neither the maximum nor the minimum, and I think in a case like this it is much better to trust to the judgment and discretion of those who are entrusted with the duty of improving the town of Calcutta. There are other safeguards also. If a scheme is framed by the Trust, it comes up before Government for sanction where it is closely scrutinised. Besides the greater the width, the greater is the cost to the Trust. For these reasons, I do not think that any restriction on the power of the Trust, such as is now suggested by the Hon'ble Member, is called for. I therefore beg to oppose the motion."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I beg to say a few words in reply. It is quite true that in the Calcutta Municipality the minimum width is 40 feet and it is also true that there is no minimum or maximum in the Calcutta Improvement Act. My friend has admitted that in most cases 100 feet would be a very reasonable width. I desire to explain, with Your Excellency's permission, what the real feeling of my countrymen on the subject is. What I mean to say is, that although the minimum is 40, generally the width has been 60, 70 and 80 feet, and in the town area it has been 80 to 100 feet. Having regard to the large predominance of the popular element in the Calcutta Corporation the omission to lay down any maximum is not of very great moment, whereas in the Board, the absence of such popular element makes all the difference. I think that there should be some restriction so that the 100 feet should be the maximum in the town area, and that is the reason why I have moved this amendment."

The motion was put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 9.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that at the end of sub-section (*1*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"Provided that no building line shall be shown in any such plan at a

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.

He said :—

"My Lord, I hope our chagrin and disappointment in having lost our motions for the omission of the building line will be in some respect mitigated by the acceptance of this amendment. I hope the Council will see the reasonableness of the proposal of restricting the width of the building line and my proposal is that it should not be made compulsory on the owner of the building to leave more than 15 feet of his own land between the street alignment and the main wall of his building. The roads as opened out by the Trust are generally 80 to 100 feet wide and some minor roads are 40 feet wide, and I am sure it will be considered quite fair and reasonable if 15 feet space is left on each side of the street. To give unrestricted power to the Board without a maximum limit might lead to hardship and oppression in some cases."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"May I make a suggestion in connection with the amendment which is now before us? The definition of a building line proposed means the line up to which the main wall of a building abutting on a projected public street may lawfully extend. I was trying to inquire whether there was any provision in the law anywhere with reference to which this expression 'lawfully extends' has been used, and I have not been able to discover anything. A similar expression occurs in the Calcutta Municipal Act. In the regulations under this Act I find that a minimum limit of 4 feet is prescribed, but there is no maximum limit proposed, but that is not in regard to a projected street, but to a street under construction. The difficulty pointed out by the Hon'ble Member the mover of this amendment is no doubt a real one. We have in this Act as well as in the Calcutta Municipal Act a reference to the limit contemplated in the law. It would be unsatisfactory if there is nowhere any provision in law with reference to the limit to which the line may extend. It is not only a matter of drafting but one which goes to the root of the case. If it is intended to leave the matter entirely to the discretion either of the Calcutta Corporation or of the Improvement Trust, the use of the expression 'lawfully extends' in the definition seems to me to be misleading. I may be wrong, but in view of what I have been able to discover it seems to me that it would be desirable, in view of the expression 'lawfully' used in the definition, to make a provision somewhere in the law by which the absolute power evidently vested either in the Improvement Trust or in the Calcutta Corporation may be limited. However, at the present moment we are dealing not with the Corporation but with the Improvement Trust."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA interrupting, said :—

"My hon'ble Friend has been reading from an old copy of the Act, and it is time that he should have a new copy. The portions which he has read have been expunged."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"I may be wrong as to the 4 feet limit in the Municipal Act, but that does not affect the question."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA continuing, said :—

"I think the arguments which I brought forward in connection with the amendment No. 8 apply equally well to this amendment. As I have said, as regards the building line there is no minimum and no maximum in the Improvement Act as it now exists. It has been considered desirable that the Trust should be left unfettered in this matter, and should be allowed to lay down the building line according to the requirements in each case. It may be that in the suburbs where land is cheaper there will be a wider building line than in the town of Calcutta, where land is very much dearer, but I do not think it is desirable to have any such limit in the Act, and therefore oppose the amendment."

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I may explain that the Calcutta Municipal Act no doubt does not contain any maximum or minimum. The Calcutta Municipal Act is a recent Act, and came into operation only 11 years ago, and I believe I am correct in stating this. The Hon'ble Mr. Payne, who has moved closer to the Hon'ble Member in charge, will correct me if I am wrong when I say that there were only two streets, during the last 11 years of the existence of the Calcutta Municipal Act of 1899, in which building line has been prescribed, and these two streets are Earle Street, 50 feet wide and 10 feet building line, the other street (Fariapookur Street) is 60 feet wide, and a new road in the Fringe Area, which was honoured by your Excellency's presence the other day, is 40 feet wide and 10 feet building line, which, I may say frankly, was prescribed at the suggestion of the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas. My Lord, during the last 11 years there have been two building lines in the Calcutta Municipality not exceeding 10 feet in width, and therefore although it is in the Municipal Act, there has not been any real hardship, because that section has practically remained a dead letter. But, as I have said before, the Calcutta Municipality is one thing, and the Calcutta Improvement Trust is another. I think, therefore, that there should be some restriction, because who knows what will emerge from the closed doors of the Improvement Trust and be hurled upon the heads of the ratepayers? I, therefore, humbly submit that there should be some restriction, and, after great deliberation and consultation, submitted to your Excellency's Council a proposal that it should be 15 feet, because the Municipality unanimously prescribed 10 feet. I do not mean the elected Commissioners whose opinions may not have so much weight, but the whole Corporation including the President of the Trust, who is a member of the Corporation, acquiesced in and supported the 10-feet building line. Therefore, my Lord, I think that my humble submission that a 15-feet building line might be prescribed by the Trust is a very reasonable one, and I hope that this may be accepted by the Hon'ble Member in charge, who, I am sure, is not very much against this proposal.

The motion was put and lost.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 10.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that at the end of sub-section *1* of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"Provided also that no building line shall be prescribed for any proposed public street situated within the Calcutta Municipality."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 11.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that at the end of sub-section *1* of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"Provided that no building line shall be prescribed for any proposed public street situated—

(*a*) within the area included in Wards I to XVIII of the Calcutta Municipality as defined in Schedule III of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899, or

(*b*) within such portions of Wards XIX to XXV of the said Municipality (as so defined) as the Local Government, in consultation with the Corporation, may from time to time determine."

He said:—

"My Lord, one by one all our amendments relating to the building line have been lost, and this is the only one which awaits its fate. But I earnestly pray that it may not meet the fate of the previous ones. Ward No. 1 to Ward No. 18 as defined in the Calcutta Municipal Act represents the old town of Calcutta, already improved and built over and is the home of the middle class population of the city, each family holding generally

but the home of their domestic deities. It is wholly unnecessary to prescribe both projected public street and building line within that area. It will therefore be some comfort to the perturbed mind of the middle class people to know that the legislature, by an express provision, has excluded their area from the operation of the building line provision. I believe the Board will never prescribe a building line in the town proper, and, if I am correct in my belief, is it not better to reassure the public mind by explicitly providing for the exclusion of the area from the operation of the building line? Ward No. 19 to Ward No. 25 is the old suburban municipality, which was amalgamated with the Calcutta Municipality in 1888. Part of it such as Bhawanipur, Kalighat, Russa Road, Hazra Road and other places have been improved, and are already in hand for improvement. These areas may fitly be excluded from the operation of the building line, but as it is not possible to discriminate those areas by Wards as defined in the Municipal Act, I have suggested that the Local Government, in consultation with the Corporation, may exclude such portions of Ward 19 to Ward 25 as may be necessary. I hope that this amendment will meet with some consideration."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"I am sorry, My Lord, that I have to oppose this amendment also. One effect of this amendment, if carried, would be to make the law rather inconsistent. Within the limits of the Calcutta Municipality there is a similar provision in section 356 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, so that, if this amendment were carried, the effect would be that if the General Committee of the Corporation proposed a scheme they would be at liberty to lay down a building line, but as soon as the Trust proposed to do so, the right of laying down a building line would be gone. I do not think that this is desirable, and as we have deliberately adopted the policy of laying down the building line both within the Calcutta Municipality and outside it, and as this amendment, if accepted, would have the effect of nullifying what has already been done, I oppose it."

The motion was put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 12.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved :—

(*i*) that the word 'and' at the end of clause (*b*) of sub-section (2) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) be omitted; and

(*ii*) that after clause (*c*) of the said sub-section the following be added, namely :—

"and

(*d*) the period (which shall not be less than sixty days) within which objections to the said plan may be submitted to the Board."

He said :—

"My Lord, this is a section in which it is stated that the Board shall prepare a notice stating the fact that a plan has been made and so forth. What has been suggested is just to insert specifically in the notice the period within which objections to the said plan may be submitted to the Board. Under the present Act, in every notice of the Improvement Scheme, the period within which objections may be taken is specified and I am sure there can be no objection to the period of limitation within which these objections may be filed being included in the present Bill."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, my hon'ble friend, Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, appealed to me to show some consideration for withdrawing one of his amendments, and I will show him that consideration by accepting this amendment."

The motion was put and agreed to.

Babu S. N. Ray; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 13.—The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY moved :—

that after clause *(i)* of sub-section (2) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be inserted, namely :—

(ia) "forward a copy of the notice by post to each owner affected, and."

He said :—

"I may tell your Lordship that there are very few people in Calcutta who read the *Calcutta Gazette*. In fact I may say that only an infinitesimal portion of the population of Calcutta read the *Calcutta Gazette*, and the number of those who read newspapers is also limited. In these circumstances it seems necessary that there should be personal service of notice upon the persons who are affected, and the cheapest mode of serving notices is the post office. This being a very cheap vehicle for service of notice, I do not understand why it should not be resorted to by the Calcutta Improvement Trust. I propose, and it is a very reasonable proposal, as it will not cost the Trust a large amount of money, that notices be served on owners of property through the medium of the post office."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I am prepared to accept the principle of this amendment, but not the form in which it is moved. The word 'owner' is a very ambiguous one, and, following the words in section 15, I would accept the amendment in the following form :—

(1a) forward a copy of the said notice to any person whose name appears in the municipal assessment book as being primarily liable to pay the owner's share of the consolidated rate, or the rate on the annual value of holdings, as the case may be, in respect of any land included within the proposed public street, and."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"Is it not similar to amendment No. 16, which stands in my name? Unless there is something wrong in the form, will the Hon'ble Member see if amendment No. 16 will do?"

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"I have some objection to the words 'notice to be served' in No. 16, because I do not think the Trust should take the responsibility of proving service of notice. We do not want to take the responsibility of serving the notice and therefore I cannot accept that amendment."

The motion was then put in the form suggested by the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda and agreed to.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 14.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that after clause *(ii)* of sub-section (2) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"*(iia)* cause copies of the said notice to be served on the owners and occupiers, respectively, of all buildings and land falling within

List of Amendments—Motion No. 15.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that after clause *ii* of sub-section (2) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"*iia*" cause copies of the said notice to be served on the owners and occupiers, respectively, of all buildings and land falling within the street alignment or building line shown on such plan, and ".

List of Amendments—Motion No. 16.—The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray to move that after clause *iii* of sub-section (2) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"and

iv cause, within thirty days from the date of the first publication of the notice under clause *c*, a notice to be served on every person whose name appears in the Municipal assessment-book as being primarily liable to pay the owner's share of the consolidated rate or the rate on the annual value of holdings, as the case may be, in respect of any land shown in the said plan."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 17.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that after the word "shall" in line 1 of sub-section (3) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the words "hear and" be inserted.

He said :—

"My Lord, in the present Act all objections to an improvement scheme are heard. It gives an opportunity to the objector to explain his objections fully, and point out in the plan laid on the table before the meeting of a Sub-Committee of the Board any alternative alignment which the parties affected might suggest. The Members of the Committee, as I know from personal experience, can at once understand the alternative alignment, and where feasible, they adopt, in not a few cases, the alternative alignment in preference to the original alignment. Discussion between the parties and the Committee also enables both parties to come to a satisfactory conclusion, whereas mere consideration of applications by the Committee as summarized in 3 or 4 lines in the précis cannot help the Board to come to a proper decision. It is a fundamental principle of all British enactments that people are heard before their objections are disposed of. It is opposed to all principles of justice, equity and fair play that a man's property should be taken from him without giving him an opportunity of being heard. It is of vital importance in a matter like this, where a person's property is at stake, to give him a hearing, otherwise it would accentuate the feeling of disappointment and dissatisfaction which is created in the minds of those whose hearths and homes are liable to be taken."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support the amendment. The amendment is necessary to allow the owners the right of being heard as is done in the case of an Improvement Scheme under section 47 of the Calcutta Improvement Act. This would be the more advantageous course to follow as the party would then have an opportunity of suggesting any alternative scheme which might be beneficial to him as well as to the Trust, or of laying his grievances before the Board which might induce them to alter their plan, as has been done in the case of the China Bazar Scheme."

Babu S. N. Banerji ; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda ; Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I desire to associate myself with this amendment. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the department is himself a lawyer. He will admit the justice of the contention which has now been put forward. You cannot strike a man without giving him a hearing. In cases under the Bengal Municipal Act, of petty encroachments which you desire to remove, you give the man a hearing, and the same procedure is followed in all proceedings in the Calcutta Municipality. I think it is a fundamental principle of justice, fair play and equity. What possible objection could there be to your giving the party a hearing. I think it is a plain elementary maxim of justice which, I am sure, my friend will gladly accept."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I am sorry that I must oppose the amendment. The reason is that when a scheme matures into an improvement scheme there is already a hearing provided by section 47 of the Improvement Act which says :—

> 'that the Board shall consider any objection, representation and statement of dissent, and after hearing all persons making any such objection, representation or dissent, who may desire to be heard the Board may either abandon the scheme or apply to the local Government, for sanction, etc., with such modifications as may be considered necessary',

and it has been thought that nothing would be gained by having two hearings. The scheme would have to go through section 47, and because there is a provision for hearing under section 47 of the Act which remains unaffected by the amendment, it is thought that the amendment only proposed will lead to delay and loss of time and is not necessary."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I appreciate the spirit in which the reply is given by the Hon'ble Member in charge. I believe, my Lord, he appreciates also the necessity of hearing the objectors, but his difficulty is that whereas in the case of an improvement scheme, when the projected street will be taken up as an improvement scheme, the objector will be heard, he does not see the necessity of giving two hearings to an objector. My Lord, I think that that information has been gathered from the Trust, but my Lord, I have been associated with the Trust very intimately for the last three years. I shall try to explain the circumstances, but I do not know whether they will be convincing. I hope that it will create some impression on the mind of the Hon'ble Member. My Lord, a projected street is framed from the corner of the Scotch Kirk to Sova Bazar or Beadon Street. The street will not materialise into a street scheme for the next 10 years. The parties affected may be 500, and during the 10 years before it materialises into a street scheme, 250 people may be swept away, because those who do not want to erect or re-erect or add to a building, will come to the Board for acquisition of their property. My Lord, if out of 500, 250 vanish, 250 remain there. Is it fair, I beg to ask, that, of the 250 people who have been swept away during this period, not one should be allowed the opportunity of coming before the Chairman of the Trust and the Board with an alternative plan, and explaining, with the help of their expert engineers, that this or that plan is the better alignment than the alignment that was originally shown there. My own experience, sitting in these Committees, is that if an objector comes in person and explains the position from the plan, then, my Lord, we are in a much better position to consider whether the line should be shifted elsewhere or not. Having regard to these facts—I do not know how far I have made it clear to the Hon'ble Member—I hope he will see his way to accept

A division was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes—10.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.
,, ,, Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.
,, ,, Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. Golam Hossein Cassim Ariff
,, ,, Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.
,, ,, Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.
,, ,, Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.
,, ,, Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
,, ,, Babu Upendra Lal Ray.
,, ,, Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray.

Noes—25.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul Huda
,, ,, Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. J. G. Cumming, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. H. L. Stephenson, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. H. F. Samman.
,, ,, Mr. H. H. Green.
,, ,, Mr. F. A. A. Cowley.
,, ,, Mr. B. B. Newbould.
,, ,, Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
,, ,, Mr. B. C. Mitra.
,, ,, Mr. H. J. Hilary.
,, ,, Rai Priya Nath Mukharji Bahadur.
,, ,, Surgeon-General G. F. A. Harris, C.S.I.
,, ,, Mr. C. F. Payne.
,, ,, Mr. C. H. Bompas.
,, ,, Mr. W. W. Hornell.
,, ,, Mr. F. J. Monahan.
,, ,, Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, Amar-ul-Omrah, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.
,, ,, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
,, ,, Mr. W. T. Grice.
,, ,, Mr. G. A. Bayley.
,, ,, Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.
,, ,, Mr. Bray.
,, ,, Mr. F. H. Stewart, C.I.E.

The following Members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.
,, ,, Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.
,, ,, Nawab Saiyid Hossain Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
,, ,, Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, C.I.E.
,, ,, Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.
,, ,, Rai Prasanna Kumar Ray Bahadur.
,, ,, Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.
,, ,, Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.
,, ,, Sir Satyendra Prasanna Sinha, Kt.
,, ,, Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
,, ,, Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.
,, ,, Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.
,, ,, Mr. R. Glen.

The following Members abstained from voting :—

The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain.
,, ,, Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.
,, ,, Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.
,, ,, Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The ayes being 10 and the noes 25, the motion was lost.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 18.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that after the word "shall" in line 4 of sub-section (*3*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the words "hear and" be inserted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 19.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that after sub-section (*3*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"(*3a*) If the Board apply to the Local Government for sanction as provided in sub-section (*3*), they shall simultaneously forward to the Government a full statement of all objections and representations made to them under the said sub-section."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"I am prepared to accept this amendment with a little verbal alteration. It should run thus :—

'(*3a*) If the Board apply for sanction as provided in sub-section (*3*) they shall simultaneously forward to the Local Government a full statement of all objections and representations made to them under the said sub-section.'

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal accepting the above alteration, the motion, in its modified form, was put and agreed to.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 20.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that after sub-section (*3*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"(*3aa*) Whenever any notice of the making of any plan is published by the Board under clause (*c*) of sub-section (*2*), if such notice relates to more than one plan, or if more than one such notice is published within the period of 60 days from the date of the publication of any previous notice, the Board shall, at the request of the Corporation or any other local authority as aforesaid, allow the Corporation or such local authority, as the case may be, such further time as may be reasonable to make any representation as aforesaid."

He said :—

"My Lord, a period of 60 days is fixed in the Bill for consideration of the plan of a projected public street by the local authorities. During that period a local inspection may be made, a sort of informal conference is held with the rate-payers, the plan is considered in the Committee, which takes at least two meetings, and then it comes up to the Corporation, and nearly 60 days are taken up in the proper consideration of a single plan. For aught I know, the Board have got several ready-made plans of projected public streets which may be published at once or in rapid succession within the first 60 days, and the local authorities may find it difficult to fully consider all the plans within the short time at their disposal. To obviate this difficulty I have proposed that extension of time should be allowed. I hope this amendment will be accepted."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I do not think that this is necessary because I think the Trust have power to fix the date, and it is not likely that they would rush the Corporation with too many projects at one time."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"What I want to explain, my Lord, is this, that it gives some statuory right to the Corporation or other local authority to ask for time."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I do not think the Hon'ble Member can say that at any time the Corporation asked for time to consider a scheme and time was not given."

Dr. Nilratan Sarkar ; Rai B. C. Pal Bahadur.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 21.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar moved that after the word "street" in line 8 of sub-section (*6*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be inserted, namely :—

"for a period of five years."

He said :—

"My Lord, the amendment seeks to lay down a time-limit within which the Board must make up their mind definitely in regard to a proposed public street after it has been notified as such. As the proposed new section stands now, when the scheme has passed through the various stages, from the preparation of plans down to the notification of same by the Local Government, the character of a projected public street will attach to the area concerned until such time as it is declared to be a public street or the notification is cancelled. The omission of any time-limit, within which either of these decisions should be arrived at by the Board, will lead to serious inconvenience to the owners. The effect of the notification of any projected public street being that a *status quo* will have to be maintained in regard to the affected area for an indefinite length of time and quite a number of disabilities will attach to the owner's rights of use, occupation, and disposal of the area under notice. The element of uncertainty and unsettlement induced by the notification should not be enhanced by leaving the Board free to lengthen out the period of suspense indefinitely.

It is true that a similar provision in the Municipal Act has no time-limit. But there is a great difference in the matter of new erections. The proposed measure will invest the Board with more ample and drastic authority than what has been provided for the Calcutta Corporation under the Municipal Act. Section 356 read with 352 in the latter Act deals with projected public streets and it imposes no embargo upon the privilege of the owner to make new erections, the operation of the section being confined to the setting back of any building or wall which has fallen down or been burnt down, or taken down so far as they stood across the street alignment or building line of the projected street. In this view of the matter new erections may be permitted within the area of projected public streets under the Municipal Act, while they will be prohibited by the Improvement Act.

Five years is a reasonably long time beyond which the Board should not take to come to a decision in this matter : at least the Government should not allow a longer time."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I support this amendment. It is necessary that there should be some time-limit within which a proposed public street should either be completed or abandoned. In the absence of any such time-limit, and having regard to the fact that the scheme might be cancelled at any time by the Local Government, the owners of properties affected by the scheme would seriously be handicapped in dealing with such properties. In this connection I would quote the following from the letter of the Chairman of the Corporation communicating the views of the Corporation to Government on the subject. The Chairman observes :—

'They consider that a time-limit should be prescribed for its operation. It was pointed out that several years may elapse before a projected public street materialises into a sanctioned street scheme, and in not a few cases the alignment will ultimately be abandoned. This being so, it would not be equitable to prevent landholders from developing and improving their properties for an indefinite time. The limit which the Committee proposes is two years from the date of the notification of the projected public street under section 63 (*6*). The Committee consider that this period should give the Improvement Trust sufficient time to frame a street scheme and that the limitation should have a wholesome effect in preventing unnecessary delay on the part of the Trust.'

A public street may be projected to-day, but it may not be an accomplished fact ten or twenty years hence, and in the meantime the owners of properties affected by the scheme continue to suffer indefinitely. There is a strong public feeling that this state of things should not be allowed to come into existence."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I am sorry that I am not in a position to accept this amendment. There is some force in what my hon'ble friend has said, but the difficulty is that, if accepted, the value of the Bill to the Trust will be greatly minimised. The whole idea is that plans will be made and gradually carried into execution. I am informed by the Chairman of the Calcutta Improvement Trust that their programme will take about 20 years to complete, and with that knowledge I find it difficult to say that the Bill itself will serve much useful purpose if we put a limit of 5 years, because after 5 years all the notices issued and proceedings taken will be nullified and the same process will have to be gone over again. Therefore, I cannot accept the amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. BOMPAS said :—

"My Lord, I am not able to understand how anybody who assents to the principle of the Bill can support this amendment. The Bill, with the concurrence of the Corporation, the Improvement Trust and this Council, provides for the laying down of street alignments when it is intended to make a street. That is not an unprecedented provision of law. It exists in most of the countries in Europe. Since 1909 it has existed in England, and in Calcutta for a great many years, and the advantage of it is obvious. It is so obvious that practically it has been brought into force in every country and everybody wants to know why it was not brought into force before. If a city is growing it is inevitable that streets will have to be made and main thoroughfares opened. It is also clear that private individuals will build houses, manufactories and other buildings. The question is, is it in the interests of the community, and is it in the interests of private individuals to allow private individuals to build all these buildings on the roads when you will have to pull them down again? Is it not a mere matter of commonsense if we are about to make roads and erect buildings to exercise a little foresight and see that the buildings are not placed on the lines that the streets are going to follow? What object will there be in saying, you will not build houses on the line of future roads for the next 5 years, and after 5 years may build them and have them pulled down again? I would have a road alignment permanently fixed, as in other cities of Europe. Paris is especially proud in having its streets laid down for 25 years hence. Most of the German and Italian towns lay out their expected growths for a quarter of a century ahead, and if you are going to lay down any streets at all you ought to maintain this principle.

The alternative idea, the only idea that suggests itself to me as justifying an amendment like this is that the Trust has been given certain funds to carry out certain works, and if the Trust have done their duty they should carry out these works in 5 years. But no one has suggested that the Trust can spend their money in 5 years; it is financially impossible. With the capital at its disposal, the Trust has to turn it over and over again. The Trust acquires land, makes roads, sells the surplus land and starts with fresh capital.

What is the advantage to the private owner of this amendment? Under the Bill as it stands, if a private owner has land falling within the street alignment, he can call upon the Trust at any time to acquire it. Why compel the Trust to acquire it if the owner does not wish it? If it suits the private individual to continue to hold his land subject to these disabilities, why not allow him to do so? The alternative, if he wishes to get rid of it, is open to him. Take the case of roads in the centre of the town : is it to the interests of the private individual that the Trust should be compelled to hasten its operations? Looked at from the point of view of the private owner surely the more

Mr. Payne; R. C. Pal; The President; Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.

slow and gradual the operation of the Trust the less hardship is it likely to impose. It may not be so inconvenient for him to sell 10 years hence. I cannot understand, and there is no precedent that I know of, or any legislation in any town in the world, for having temporary road alignments. If 150 years ago, when Calcutta was growing and buildings were being erected, they had exercised foresight and laid down alignments for broad streets, all this expenditure of money would have been saved."

The Hon'ble Mr. PAYNE said :—

"My Lord, as the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur has referred to a letter of mine in his speech, I think it is only right that I should point out that the quotation read by him does not refer to this clause at all. It refers to clause (*bbb*) of section 8 of the Schedule and not to the clause under discussion."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I have a motion on this very subject, and I would not therefore formally move it. It is differently worded, but may I have the right to reply?"

His Excellency the PRESIDENT said :—

"No, I am afraid the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar alone has the right of reply."

The Hon'ble Dr. NILRATAN SARKAR said :—

"My Lord, I moved this amendment on a question of principle as well as a question of details. First, as to the principle, if it is agreed that there should be a time-limit for the notification—and all notifications have a lapse—the Government may accept my amendment. If any difficulty should arise in practice, they may easily renew the notice. Some compromise may be arrived at for that purpose. In fact, it may be troublesome to go again through the details of the various processes required by this section. If necessary, the notice may be renewed without so much formality and waste of time.

As regards the details, the Hon'ble the Chairman of the Trust has based his arguments upon convenience from the point of view of the Trust. No doubt his arguments are sound from his point of view. But from the point of view of individual owners, I think a time-limit would be much more convenient to us than to have our land and property indefinitely placed in such a disadvantageous position as is contemplated in this section. It is true that in the Municipal Act, for a similar purpose, there is no time-limit. But there is a vast difference between section 356 of the Municipal Act and this section of the Improvement Act. The Hon'ble Mr. Bompas has also said there is nothing to prevent the owner from applying for his property being acquired. Even this the owner cannot do unless he submits a plan, whether bogus or genuine, and has it rejected by the Chairman. In these circumstances I would press for the acceptance of this amendment."

The motion was put and lost.

The following motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 22.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar to move that after the word "declared" in line 9 of sub-section (*6*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be inserted, namely, "within the said period."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 23.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that after the words "the said notification has been

cancelled" in line 12 of sub-section (6) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"in which case the fact of such cancellation shall be announced in the Calcutta Gazette and in local newspapers."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I am anxious to consider further the principle underlying this amendment, but there is some doubt about the form, and I would ask my hon'ble friend to leave it over for to-day."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"Very well, my Lord."

The discussion of the motion was then adjourned to the next day.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 24.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that after sub-section (6) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"(6*a*) Where any land has been acquired after the issue of a notification under sub-section (6) sanctioning the plan of the proposed public street, the owner from whom such land has been acquired, or his successor in interest, shall, if such notification is subsequently cancelled, have the right to reclaim the land on payment of a sum not exceeding the compensation paid to him."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I may inform my Hon'ble friend that we are considering this amendment, and, if he agrees, it may be taken up to-morrow."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"Very well, my Lord."

The discussion of the motion was then adjourned to the next day.

The following motions were then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 25.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that after sub-section (6) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

(6*aa*) "When any proposed public street is not declared to be a public street under section 65, or section 66, as the case may be, within five years from the date of publication of the notification referred to in sub-section (6), such notification shall be deemed to be cancelled."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 26.—The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray to move that at the end of sub-section (6) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"or

(c) the expiration of four years from the date of the said notification"

R. C. Pal: Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.

Clause 3.

Proposed new section 63 (8).

List of Amendments.—Motion No. 27.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that for sub-section (8) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be substituted, namely:—

"If any person desires to erect, re-erect or add to any wall or building within the street alignment of a projected public street shown in any plan sanctioned by the Local Government under this section, he shall submit an application in writing to the Chairman for permission so to do:

"Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall relieve any person from the liability to obtain such sanction as it may be necessary to obtain under any law for the time being in force from any local authority."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 28.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the words "twelve feet in height including the plinth" be substituted for the words "eight feet in height" in line 2 of sub-section (8) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill).

He said:—

"My Lord, a wall 8 feet in height is permitted to be built within the building line but it will be a very low wall and would not be sufficient protection for a house. Twelve feet including the plinth is a fair and reasonable height and I hope that this amendment will be accepted."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said:—

"My Lord, we are prepared to accept the next amendment and adopt 10 feet as the height if my friend will withdraw this amendment."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said:—

"I thank my hon'ble friend for whatever concession he may be pleased to make us."

The amendment was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 29.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the words "ten feet" be substituted for the words "eight feet" in line 2 of sub-section (8) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill).

The motion was put and agreed to.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 30.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that the words "or building line" in lines 3 and 4 of sub-section (8) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 31.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that the words "or re-erect" be inserted after the words "to erect" in line 2 of clause (i) of sub-section (8) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill).

He said:—

"My Lord, to be consistent with the opening sentence of the clause (i) where the words "erect and re-erect" occur, it is necessary to insert the word "re-erect" after the word "erect" in the latter part of the clause.

Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; R. C. Pal; Raja Hrishikesh Laha.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I accept this amendment."

The motion was put and agreed to.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 32.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that after the word "balcony" in line 12 of sub-section (*8*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the words "or verandah not exceeding 6 feet in width" be added.

He said :—

"My Lord, it was intended in the Select Committee to allow a small verandah projecting from the main wall of the building over the vacant land within the premises in the rear of the street alignment within the building line of a projected public street. A verandah not exceeding 6 feet in width in front of a house built on approved architectural design will not only add to the convenience and comfortable use of a building but will enhance the beauty and ornamentation of the street frontage. I hope this addition will be allowed."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I am sorry that we cannot accept this amendment. The "building line" has already been adopted and we are not prepared to modify it further."

The motion was put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 33.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that after the words "an outhouse not exceeding 15 feet in height" in lines 14 and 15 of sub-section (*8*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the words "excluding the plinth" be added.

He said :—

"My Lord, an out-office 15 feet in height inclusive of the plinth will render the rooms low and ill-ventilated. The higher the plinth the better for the house. I have added the words "excluding the plinth in order to encourage the building of good and substantial plinths."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, the reasons I gave for opposing Amendment No. 32 apply equally to this amendment."

The motion was put and lost.

List of Amendments—Items Nos. 34 and 35.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, with the permission of His Excellency the President, moved motions Nos. 34 and 35 together, as follows :—

"That the word 'sixty' be substituted for the word 'thirty' in line 15 of sub-section (*8a*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill).

That the words 'which period may be extended on application' be added at the end of sub-section (*8a*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill)."

He said :—

"My Lord, thirty days would be too short a period for the removal of a wall or a building as the owner will have to take steps for the safety of the remaining portion of his house or for building a new wall or for pulling down the old wall. This will undoubtedly take time and it would be fair and reasonable to allow poor owners to adopt necessary measures for the protection of their property."

Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda : Raja Hrishikesh Laha.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I think it would be better if my Hon'ble friend moved 34 separately, as we are prepared to accept it, but not No. 35."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said :—

"I am quite agreeable to that."

Motion No. 34 was then put and agreed to.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 35.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that the words "which period may be extended on application" be added at the end of sub-section (*8a*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill).

Clause 3.

Proposed new section 63 10).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 36.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that the words—

"or

(*ii*) between the street alignment and the building line"

in lines 4, 5 and 6 of sub-section (*10*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 37.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that the words—

"or

(*ii*) between the street alignment and the building line"

in lines 4, 5 and 6 of sub-section (*10*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 38.—The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray to move that at the end of sub-section (*10*) (*ii*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely—

"or

(*iii*) partly within the street alignment and partly between the street alignment and the building line."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 39.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha moved that the brackets and words "(including compensation for severance)" be inserted after the word "refusal" in clause (*a*) of sub-section (*10*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill).

He said :—

"My Lord, justice demands that when the Trust acquires a portion of a building it shall not only pay the value of the land and building, but also the cost of deterioration that would be caused to that building by pulling down a portion which would have the effect of rendering the rest uninhabitable or causing great inconvenience to the owner. In common fairness compensation for severance should be granted."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I oppose this motion because I think it is unnecessary. The acquisition would be under the Land Acquisition Act and the principle of that Act would apply, unless expressly abrogated. The Land Acquisition Act does recognise claims for compensation by reason of severance, and therefore I think amendment is unnecessary, and I oppose it."

The motion was put and lost.

R. C. Pal.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn

List of Amendments—Motion No. 40.—The Hon'ble Babu Sur Nath Ray to move that the words " or between the street alignment ar building line, as the case may be" in clause (*b*) of sub-section (*10*) proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 41.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan S to move that for the words, brackets and letter " in case (*a*)" in line sub-section (*10*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bil following be substituted, namely :—

" in both case (*a*) and case (*b*)".

List of Amendments—Motion No. 42.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nil Sarkar to move that after the words, brackets and lette case (*b*)" in line 23 of sub-section (*10*) of the proposed section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be ins namely :—

" at their option."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 43.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nil Sarkar to move that before the proviso to sub-section (. the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill), the follo be inserted, namely :—

" Provided that any land so acquired shall either be fort added to the street or be kept as an open space for p use, and shall in no case be disposed of according t provisions of section 81."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 44.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nil Sarkar to move that for the proviso to sub-section (*1* the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the follo be substituted, namely :—

" Provided further that, in the case of such land as falls w the street alignment only, the Board shall not exercise option, unless the owner requires the Board to acquire same in lieu of paying compensation therefor."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 45.—Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHA PAL BAHADUR said :—

" My Lord, I should like to move my amendment No. 45 in two parts

Leave was given and the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur m that the proviso to sub-section (*10*) of the proposed new section 63 (clau of the Bill) be omitted.

He said :—

" My Lord, in the proposed section 63, sub-section (*10*), option is g to the owner of the land, who is refused permission to erect, re-erect or to a building or wall, to call upon the Board either to pay him compensa for any damage sustained by him or to acquire so much of his land as within the street alignment, but it is also provided that it shall be opti with the Board to acquire the land or building as the case may be in lie paying compensation. The proviso nullifies the option given to the owne clauses (*a*) & (*b*) of sub-section (*10*), and is quite inconsistent with t clauses. What you give with one hand you take away with the other. property belongs to the owner, and it is for him to exercise the op either to claim compensation for any damage sustained, and to retain property as it stands, suffering all inconvenience and hardships on acc of its restricted use, or to call upon the Board to acquire the prop

in question at once. If the Board proceeds to execute the projected public street at once, they must acquire the property immediately, but if there is delay in executing the scheme the owner has the option either to retain the property on payment of compensation by the Board or to sell it outright to the Board. Why should there be again any option in favour of the Board? This is neither fair nor just and will create in the minds of the people an impression that the so-called option to the holders of properties is illusory. I would like to draw Your Excellency's special attention to this. The option is given to the person either to suffer all the disabilities till the road is completed 20 or 30 years hence by taking some compensation as damages, or to call upon the Board to acquire the property outright. My Lord, in the concluding portion of the clause, option is given to the Board, when the amount of compensation exceeds the estimated cost of acquisition, to acquire the property. I think, My Lord, that what is stated in the beginning is nullified by the subsequent portion of the clause, where the option is given to the Board."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I do not think that my hon'ble friend is right in saying that what is given in the first portion is taken away by the proviso. The owner of the land has got the right either to claim compensation or to ask for the acquisition of so much of the land as falls within the street alignment. A case may occur in which compensation to be awarded is so large that it is much more convenient to the Board, instead of paying compensation, to pay the full value of the land, and therefore option has been given to the Board in case a man comes and claims compensation, to say, 'No, instead of compensation, we will acquire the land and pay you the full value,' so that both parties are on very much the same footing. Option is given to the owner to claim either compensation or acquisition. For this reason, I oppose the amendment."

The motion was put and lost.

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur then moved that after subsection (*10*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

'Provided that an appeal shall lie to the Board against any refusal of permission by the Chairman as aforesaid.'

He said :—

"My Lord, following the Calcutta Municipal Act, where an appeal lies against the decision of the Chairman to the General Committee, I think there should be a provision of an appeal to the Board against the Chairman's order, more so because the word 'Chairman' has been substituted in the place of the word 'Board' in the Bill. I have reasons to believe that it will be accepted by the present Chairman of the Board. For it will not impair his powers and influence which have unrestricted scope in the Board."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, we are able to accept this amendment with a slight change in the wording. We will accept it if put in this form, and as a new subsection (*11*).

"(*11*) An appeal shall lie to the Board from any refusal by the Chairman to grant an application under this section.'"

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"I accept the Hon'ble Member's suggestion."

The motion was put in the altered form and agreed to.

Babu S. N. Banerji; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; R. C. Pal.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 46.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray moved that at the end of sub-section (*10*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

> "Provided further that the owner shall be entitled to damages (if any) sustained by him by reason of the severance of such land from his other land, or by reason of the acquisition injuriously affecting his other property (moveable or immoveable) or his means of livelihood."

He said :—

"My Lord, this proviso, I need hardly tell the Council, is taken from section 23, clause (1) (*iv*) of the Land Acquisition Act. My friend, the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, has just now said, in opposing the amendment of the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, that inasmuch as the acquisition will be made under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, the parties will be entitled to claim damages for severance. But there may be a zealous Land Acquisition Collector who would say that the acquisition is made, not at the instance of the Trust but at the instance of the owner of the property, and therefore he is not entitled to any damages for severance, he is entitled only to claim compensation for what is actually acquired. Of course, I can very well understand that if there be a good judge, he would give compensation for severance also, but why not reaffirm the principle? I cannot use the speech of my hon'ble friend in this Council, after the Privy Council decision and say that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has said that, as the acquisition is made under the Land Acquisition Act, the claimant will be entitled to claim damages for severance. In these circumstances I do not see any reason why the principle which has been already laid down should not be reaffirmed.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I do not think we ought to reaffirm a principle where it is unnecessary to do so. Nothing can be more clear than this, that the acquisition is to be made under the Land Acquisition Act, and the words my friend has quoted are taken from the Land Acquisition Act. I do not think it is necessary to include them in the new Improvement Act. I do not think any Court can possibly hold that, because the owner of a plot of land exercises the right which the law gives him to claim compensation, he is therefore not entitled to full compensation. If he can go so far as to say that nothing should be given for severance, he may as well say that when the owner of the land himself came and asked for acquisition he is not entitled to any compensation at all. I do not think there is any doubt or any mistake that we have to clear up, and for this reason I oppose the motion as being unnecessary."

The motion was put and lost.

List of Amendments—Motion No 47.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that at the end of sub-section (*10*) of the proposed section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

> "Provided further that if the land falling either within the street alignment or between the street alignment and the building-line, as the case may be, is reasonably required for the full and unimpaired use of the premises of which it forms a part, the Board shall be bound, if the owner so requires, to acquire the whole of the said premises."

He said :—

"My Lord, this is practically on the same lines as the previous motion, and if the Hon'ble Member is not prepared to accept it, I do not wish to waste the time of the Council and would withdraw it."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

R. C. Pal; Raja Hrishikesh Laha; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.

The following motions were also, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 48.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that clause 6 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 49.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that in line 11 of clause 6 the words "twelve feet" be substituted for the words "eight feet."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 50.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that in line 11 of clause 6 the words "ten feet" be substituted for the words "eight feet."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 51.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that the words "or building-fine" in line 13 of clause 6 be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 52.—The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur moved that clause 6A be omitted.

He said :—

"My Lord, this clause provides for a penalty for failure to remove a building or wall in respect of which an agreement has been made, and the fine may extend to one hundred rupees. This clause is not at all necessary, for the subsequent clause 7A gives the Chairman the power to remove such wall or building at the cost of the owner, and in many cases the cost of demolition and removal of rubbish is more than met by the sale of building materials. Where is the necessity, therefore, of having the unpopular provision of a prosecution entailing a fine of one hundred rupees, when the object is easily gained by the demolition of the building by the Chairman ?

I think, my Lord, that this prosecution clause is unnecessary, as the object is easily gained by the subsequent clause."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support this amendment. This clause provides a penalty for failing to comply with the requisition of the Trust. The penalty clauses are certainly superfluous, as the removal of a wall or building and the recovery of expenses incurred thereby are provided in clause 7A. It will have the effect of harassing people, as the owner would be sufficiently punished when he does not get compensation for the building he had constructed, and over and above that, to make him liable to punishment would be very harsh indeed. Already the large acquisition of lands has made the Calcutta Improvement Trust very unpopular, and this provision will make it doubly so."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I do not think that the full significance of this clause has been realised. The clause provides that when a person has executed an agreement, as provided in section 63, if he fails to remove such a wall or building within the time specified in the notice, he may come forward and say 'I cannot do it, you had better do it yourself', the Chairman will then do it for him. But if he neither comes and asks the Chairman to do it, nor does it himself, he is only then liable to be fined. I do not think in a case like that there is any question of hardship at all.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"If I may be permitted to explain, my Lord, it is not merely a question of the removal of a wall, etc. When a written notice is given to the owner, and it is not complied with, then the Chairman may proceed to remove such

wall or building and recover the cost of same by the sale of materials. This ought to be enough. There may be cases in which poor illiterate men may not be able to remove the building or the wall within the given time. I have great respect for Mr. Bompas, but there may be underlings in the subordinate ranks who might start a prosecution. We cannot expect the President of the Improvement Trust to watch all these minor matters. It is sufficient to avoid the contingency of the Board being saddled with any additional cost. It is amply provided for by the subsequent clause, and there is no use in having a prosecution section again."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"May I add a few words, my Lord? Section 174A refers to section 171A. The former says: When a written notice.....is not complied with by the owner thereof for the time being as provided in section 171A." It is only when you do nothing under section 171A that 174A comes in. Therefore if you drop 171A, 174A becomes perfectly meaningless."

The motion was put and lost.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 53.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that clause 6A be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 54.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that clause 6A be omitted.

Clause 7A.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 55.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that clause 7A be omitted.

Clause 8.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 56.—The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray to move that for the words "After clause (*b*) in" in line 1 of clause 8 the following be inserted, namely :—

"After clause (*b*) in sub-section (*2*) of".

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned to the next day, Wednesday, the 3rd March, 1915, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal
and Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA ;

The 27th March, 1915.

B. S. Press—17-4-1915—4162J—500—J. L. C.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Wednesday, the 3rd March, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble SURGEON-GENERAL G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. CAWLEY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., AMIR-UL-OMRAH.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HUQ.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.

THE CALCUTTA IMPROVEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1915.

[*The discussion on the Calcutta Improvement (Amendment) Bill, 1915, adjourned from the 2nd instant, was resumed.*]

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS.

Clause 8.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 57.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that clause 8 *bb* be omitted.

He said :—

"My Lord, the introduction of this novel clause is hotly opposed by the public. I fail to see what is the impediment that is sought to be removed by the introduction of this clause. The Corporation has been acquiring land and there has been no difficulty with them for want of a similar provision in the Calcutta Municipal Act. The Land Acquisition Collector or the Tribunal of the Improvement Trust have not found any difficulty in acquiring land. This provision unnecessarily introduces an element of controversy in the matter of valuation. A projected street is framed to-day and a line is drawn in the plan, and ten years after the land is acquired and the road is made. How can the increase and decrease of the value of land alleged to be due to the projected street be determined? A piece of land valued at Rs. 1,000 on the date of the notification of the projected public street is found ten years after, when the land is acquired for the purpose of opening out the road, to value Rs. 1,500. The difference of Rs. 500 cannot be solely ascribed to the projected public street. There is normal growth in the value of land which may be due to other factors, such as development of trade, shifting of some particular trade from one quarter to another quarter of the town, the expansion of residential quarters in the town, etc. Is it possible to ascertain how much of that Rs. 500 is attributable to the projected public street, and how much to other causes? Is there any expert who will be able to say that out of Rs. 500 Rs. 200 is due to the projected street and Rs. 300 to other causes? It is also to be remembered that in the Calcutta Improvement Act the schedule modifying the ordinary Land Acquisition Act provides that the market value of the land at the time of the declaration for its acquisition is to be taken into account. I must frankly state to Your Excellency that there is a great apprehension in our community that this clause will prove highly oppressive to the persons affected by the operations of the Trust, that it will arm the Valuer of the Trust, however well-intentioned he may be, with arbitrary powers, and that the valuation will be made on a mere speculation as is now being done in fixing exemption fees. Already the valuations of the Trust have created a widespread dissatisfaction, and the insertion of this provision in the Bill will deepen and accentuate that feeling. Much is made of the fact by the Chairman of the Improvement Trust that the Corporation was consulted by the Board before they approached the Government for legislation, but no stress is laid on the fact that the Corporation strongly opposed this clause. It is not fair to take advantage of the Corporation's support of one clause and to ignore its opposition to another clause. Further, as I have said, the public opinion is strongly arrayed against it. I may be permitted to state frankly to Your Excellency that the apprehension is that, whatever the increase may be, that is to say, the whole of Rs. 500 in my foregoing illustration, will be set down to the projected street, and the poor owner deprived of it. My Lord, the operations of the Improvement Trust are such that nearly the whole of the supposed possible increase of the value of land is realized from the owners of land and buildings, who are mostly poor middle-class people. In England, in the Town Planning Act, it is provided that where, by the making of the town-planning scheme, any property is increased in value, the responsible authority shall be entitled to recover from any person, whose property is so increased in

value, one-half of the amount of the increase. How differently are we treated here! Lord Morley, with that tender and generous regard for the attachment of the oriental people to their hearth and home, vetoed the proposal regarding betterment in the original Calcutta Improvement Trust Bill, but the Act is so worked that his generous intention is frustrated and the middle-class people are crushed by the imposition of heavy exemption fees, and this clause will add to their agony. In this connection it would not be inappropriate to quote the following letter to Government from the Corporation of Calcutta :—

'In recommending the omission of the proposed clause (*bb*) of article 9 of the Schedule, the Committee were chiefly actuated by the consideration of the difficulties which would be likely to arise in the practical working of this provision. It is probable that in a considerable number of cases there will be an interval of several years between the time when a projected street is notified under section 63 (*6*) and the actual acquisition of the land after the approval of a street scheme. The Committee are of opinion that in such cases it will be almost impossible to determine what proportion of any increase in land value which may have accrued during the interval is attributable to the alignment of the projected public street through the area in question and in what proportion to the normal rise of land value and other causes. It was also contended that in order to arrive at an estimate of the appreciation due to the street alignment it would be necessary to go back to the period before that alignment was laid down, and it would be difficult to ascertain the value of the land in question and land in the vicinity at that time. The Committee were also of opinion that, apart from the practical difficulties in working, the principle of valuing property at a rate other than its market value at the time of the declaration under section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act is unjustifiable. It was also pointed out that the main object of the amendment was to prevent the erection of buildings on the line of projected streets, and that, having secured this end, the Improvement Trust ought to take the good with the bad and pay the market value of the land which they eventually decide to acquire. The Corporation have aligned projected streets from time to time under section 356 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, and it has not been found in actual experience that any extensive increase in the value of land has resulted from such alignments. The Committee are of opinion that the same will probably be the case with the projected streets laid down by the Improvement Trust. They consider therefore that it is undesirable to introduce any innovation into the existing law relating to land acquisition in order to provide for a contingency which is not likely to arise to any substantial degree in actual practice.'

My Lord, I need not now further dilate on the subject, but, after hearing what the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has to say, I shall quote to the Council the opinion of some of the eminent English jurists on the subject."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support this amendment. This is a novel way of fixing the market value of lands falling within the road alignment. There is no time-limit prescribed for the acquisition of the land, and it would be impossible for the parties affected to know their position. It gives one the idea that the Board will be able to acquire land without paying proper compensation. When there is no time-limit the acquisition may take place many years after the publication of the notification, and how the market-value can be ascertained after the lapse of so many years I fail to understand. If the observation of my Hon'ble friend Mr. Payne contained in his letter of the 12th January last to the effect that 'it has not been found in actual experience that any extensive increase in the value of land has resulted from such alignment' be correct, then there is no necessity for this provision, and any increase in value that might take place may be divided in equal proportion between the Trust and the owners. The clause as it stands would not help in ascertaining definitely what proportion of the increase is due to street alignment and what to a normal rise in value, even if a register of the value of the lands affected on the date of the declaration has been prepared in the

presence of the parties upon unimpeachable evidence. The clause is very peremptory in its tone, and the effect would be that all the advantages would go to the Trust even if the rise in value were due to an accession of traffic or to causes other than the street alignment. I would therefore move for its omission."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, even experienced judges have found it difficult in land acquisition cases to find out the present market value of land. It would be almost impossible to find out what was the market value of land some time, probably some years, before the actual acquisition. One has to proceed upon conjectures and hypotheses, and not upon actual data. Land is not like food-stuff sold in the Calcutta Municipal Market or Chetla Hât, the price list of which is published daily or weekly in the *Calcutta Gazette*. It is admitted on all hands that there is a normal rise in the price of land in Calcutta. It would be difficult—almost impossible—to find out what has been the rise on account of this normal rise in the price of land and what has been due to the declaration of a street alignment. It is the poor owner of property who will have to suffer, for when once the award is made by the Collector the whole burden of proof is upon the claimant to show what has been the rise in price on account of normal rise in price in the locality and what on account of the declaration of the street alignment. The Calcutta Corporation in its letter on the subject of the Calcutta Improvement Amendment Bill justly says—'The Committee are of opinion that in such cases it will be almost impossible to determine what proportion of any increase in land value which may have accrued during the interval is attributable to the alignment of the projected public street through the area in question and in what proportion to the normal rise of land value in other cases.' Moreover, from actual experience, the Calcutta Corporation is in a position to state that no extensive increase in the value of land has resulted from alignments of projected streets under section 356 of the Calcutta Municipal Act.

Under the circumstances I cannot understand what good will result by inserting a clause in the Act which may have the effect of putting poor people to unnecessary harassment and trouble."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I think the amendment that has been proposed is based on a misapprehension of what is intended by the clause 8 *bb*). A good deal has been made of the difficulty that will be felt in finding out to what extent a particular cause has led to a rise in the value of a piece of land. But as a matter of fact there is no question of finding out anything, but it is only a question of disregarding certain factors. The clause runs thus :—'If the market value has been increased or decreased owing to the land falling within or near to the alignment of a projected public street, such increase or decrease shall be disregarded.' Thus all arguments which are based on the difficulty for a Court to find out to what extent value has risen on account of a particular cause are beside the mark. Then it has been said that where there has been a rise in value and the question arises several years after, it would be very difficult to find out how much of the rise is due to other causes and how much to the cause referred to in this clause. If that is a difficulty, the Land Acquisition Courts have worked under similar difficulties for years. Let us examine the present section 24 of the Land Acquisition Act. It says 'but the Courts shall not take into consideration . . . . *fifthly*, any increase to the value of land acquired likely to accrue from the use to which it is put.' Does not the same difficulty arise here also? The Courts have to do their best, and I have not heard that these difficulties have prevented Courts from doing justice in land acquisition cases. As a matter of fact, this clause (*bb*) is only an extension of section 24 of the Land Acquisition Act, and is meant to meet the new elements introduced by this Bill. This clause in the Bill deals with increases likely to take place by reason of mere publication of plans of projected streets in the value of land which

actually fall within the street alignment or which are adjacent to such projected streets. As regards the justice of this provision, nothing has been said to show that it is inequitable and that we are in any way depriving the land-owners of anything that legitimately belongs to them. The Trust publish a scheme and everybody knows that there is a probability within a certain number of years of a street passing through a particular locality. That causes a rise in the value of land. This clause provides that such rise shall be disregarded. It also says that if there has been a decrease for such a cause the decrease should also be disregarded. So it is for the benefit of the land-owners as well of the Trust that this provision should exist. I am not convinced that a wrong principle has been embodied in this clause. I therefore oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. BOMPAS said :—

"My Lord, may I add a few words to emphasize what the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has said when he points out that the proposed section deals with decrease in the value of land as well as with increase? Of course it may be said that if the proposed section is omitted we can let the ordinary law take its course until we see that injustice is done and then amend the law. But if we see clearly that the Land Acquisition Act as it stands will work injustice and cause hardship to private individuals, why should we not avoid that by amending the law when we have the chance? From the discussion which took place yesterday on some of the proposed amendments it is quite clear that Members of this Council see that the fact that a street alignment has been laid down will have a prejudicial effect on the value of property falling within that alignment. Take the case of a rented house. A man wants to let his house; but who will take it if he cannot make the necessary alterations to suit the business to be carried on in that house? Then, again, a man wants to sell a house. Who will buy it for residential purposes if it is known that in ten years it will be acquired and demolished by the Trust. Obviously there would be fewer competitors for properties falling within the street alignment, and if your competitors fall off it means that your price diminishes and the market value of the property is decreased. The Trust then comes to make its roads. The Collector has no option. The Collector, under the law as it stands, has to acquire the property at the market value. Is it fair that the Trust should first of all by notification diminish the market value of the property falling within the street alignment and then acquire it at the lower value? It seems to me most unjust and prejudicial to the interests of private land-owners, and it seems to me that this is the most important aspect, because whether the Trust acquires any given property outside a road alignment is problematical, but what is certain is it has to acquire the property within the line. It is uncertain to what extent there will be land speculation, leading to inflated prices of land outside the alignment, but it seems to me absolutely certain, and this view must be shared by everybody, that there will be a distinct depreciation in the value of land within the street alignment. Therefore, I would ask the mover of this amendment to be very careful how far he presses it. So much for the case of decrease. As regards the increase, it seems to me that if you take it one way you should take it the other way also."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, it seems to me from the observations which have fallen that this amendment is largely inspired by a keen regard for the interests of the ratepayers. I am very much obliged to the President of the Improvement Trust for his developing this regard, for I fear that he has never been credited with a feeling of regard for the interests of the people.

Be that as it may, my Lord, here stands out this fact that the representatives of the ratepayers, who might be imagined to be as keenly interested in their welfare as the President of the Improvement Trust, do not want this amendment in the interest of the ratepayers. Their representatives —duly elected and authorised representatives—are against an amendment

which the President of the Improvement Trust wants on their behalf. Whose authority is this Council to accept on an occasion like this, that of the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas who constitutes himself as their protector, or the two Hon'ble gentlemen who have been returned as their representatives? I think that there can be only one answer to this question, viz., we ought to accept the authority of the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur and the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha.

Another observation has been made by the Hon'ble Member who has just spoken. He thinks that the Land Acquisition Act is bound to operate harshly and even unjustly unless it is amended upon the lines suggested. I think we might as well wait till the Land Acquisition Act has been in operation for some time. It represents the accumulated wisdom of a large number of experienced lawyers and administrators. Why take a leap in the dark unless upon the basis of actual fact and actual experience? I think that if it is found as a result of the operation of the Land Acquisition Act, in regard to this particular class of cases, that injustice is done or that hardship is the result, this Council might be trusted to remedy the hardship and remove the injustice. I do not see why it is necessary to take a jump into the unknown against the protests of the recognised representatives of the people. There is already an uncertain element in the Land Acquisition Act, and you introduce another uncertain element, viz., whether an increase or decrease in the value of the land will take place as the result of this alignment. In this matter it seems to me that we ought to wait and see how the Land Acquisition Act operates and then, if necessary, the legislature might be moved to remedy any defects or to remove any grievances."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said:—

"My Lord, I may be permitted to say a few words in reply. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, if I have followed him right, has observed that this clause is a very innocuous one; it is that the increase in the value of the land will be disregarded and nothing further will be done. If I have understood him right, that was the gist of his observations. My Lord, from an ordinary commonsense point of view I might explain the situation. "A projected street is prescribed to-day over a certain area; 20 years after certain premises are acquired, when the projected street is taken up as a regular street scheme for the purpose of opening up the road; to-day the value of that piece of land is Rs. 1,000 per cottah; 20 years after, when it is declared for acquisition, a man comes before the Land Acquisition Collector and claims Rs. 1,500 per cottah and cites the ordinary market value according to the records of sales in the locality and proves that the value is Rs. 1,500 per cottah. It will then be said that this increase of Rs. 500 is due to the projected public street and must be disregarded, and my contention is this, that there are several factors which will support that increase and not merely the projected public street. The Hon'ble Member has quoted clause 'fifthly' of section 23 of the Land Acquisition Act. My Lord, several lawyers and others, who are also chiefly interested in the City of Calcutta and have large stakes in the city, have considered this question within the last few months, and have discussed the provisions of the Bill, and they all think that this provision is very prejudicial to the parties concerned. Regarding the use to which a particular property is put, I can quite understand that that should not be disregarded. A certain property is ordinarily used for a residential house, but if it is intended to be used for a mill or anything of the kind it will no doubt appreciate in value on account of that use, and that use will be disregarded. I have got a piece of land on the bank of the river which is a garden house. I can come up to the Land Acquisition Collector and say that though its value is Rs. 200 per cottah, I can get a mill-owner to buy it for Rs. 500 per cottah. That fact will, however, be disregarded. That is a tangible thing which can be proved or disproved, but the fact whether the value of land is raised from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 and the increase of Rs. 500 per cottah is due to a projected street or is due to normal growth in the value of the land is not possible for the

Land Acquisition Collector to investigate and to decide in awarding compensation on that basis. Then I will quote the opinions of English authorities as expressed in the Report of the Select Committee appointed by the House of Lords in 1894 on the subject.

In that report I find the following opinions recorded :—

'But the effect of the public works in raising the value of neighbouring lands is shown by experience to be uncertain. Whether in any particular case it is possible for a valuer to pronounce that such an effect had been produced by the completion of any public work, is a point upon which the evidence of eminent valuers differs greatly.'

My Lord, the actual improvement remains to be effected ; the line is drawn by the Trust and the improvement may be effected 20 years hence. I can quite understand that when a road is completed and all the buildings abut on the road, then there may be reasonable increase in the value of the land. But here, my Lord, the line is drawn now, and it is assumed that 20 years hence the value of the land will be increased. Then, my Lord, about the decrease in value of the land, I cordially appreciate the motive that has induced the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas to support this proposal. It is in fact his own proposal. There is no similar provision in the Calcutta Municipal Act. I have given very careful attention to the observations that have fallen from the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas, and I have discussed the matter with him and with many friends who have some experience. I will cite one hypothetical case. If I have got a one-storied house on a street which falls within a projected street, I cannot make it two-storied ; the value sterilises therefore. If I sell that one-storied house, I may sell it for Rs. 5,000, but if the man who buys it is permitted to build a second storey without being liable to remove it he can sell it for Rs. 5,000 ; but as he cannot do so the value sterilises, and so there is no decrease, and therefore I can see no advantage to the people by the retention of this clause. On the contrary there is risk of considerable injury to the owners of the property. My Lord, I may be permitted to lay one fact before your Lordship, and it is this, that it is not the big landlords that will be affected by the Bill, but it is the vast majority of poor middle-class people who are merely dragging on their way, trying to make both ends meet as traders or clerks, and sticking to their ancestral hearths and homes and living under the beneficent rule of the British Government. These are the people who will be affected ; they are not well conversant with the art of agitation which reverberates through the halls of this Council. There is a genuine feeling of alarm and dissatisfaction in our community, and I earnestly pray, my Lord, that this clause may be omitted from the Bill. We have got three years' experience of the working of this Act, and we do not think that any case has been made out for the incorporation of this clause in the Bill."

A division was taken with the following result :—

Ayes—16

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.
" Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.
" Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.
" Mr. Golam Hossem Cassim Ariff.
" Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.
" Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.
" Rai Harimohan Chandra Bahadur.
" Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.
" Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
" Babu Upendra Lal Ray.
" Maulvi Musharaff Husain.
" Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.
" Raja Dinendra Narain Ray.
" Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, Amir-ul-Omrah, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.
" Nawab Sayid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.
" Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

Noes—21.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.
" Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell, C.I.E.
" Mr. J. G. Cumming, C.I.E.
" Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.I.E.
" Mr. H. L. Stephenson, C.I.E.
" Mr. H. F. Samman.
" Mr. H. H. Green.
" Mr. F. A. A. Cowley.
" Mr. B. B. Newbould.
" Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
" Rai Priya Nath Mukherji Bahadur.
" Surgeon-General G. F. A. Harris, C.S.I.
" Mr. C. F. Payne.
" Mr. C. H. Bompas.
" Mr. W. W. Hornell.
" Mr. F. J. Monahan.
" Mr. W. T. Grice.
" Mr. G. A. Bayley.
" Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.
" Mr. Bray.
" Mr. F. H. Stewart, C.I.E.

The following members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.	The Hon'ble Rai Prasanna Kumar Ray Bahadur.
,, Mr. B. C. Mitra.	,, Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur
,, Mr. H. J. Hilary.	,, Dr Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.
,, Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri	Sir Satyendra Prasanna Sinha, Kt
,, Nawab Saiyid Hossain Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.	,, Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
,, Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, C.I.E.	,, Mr Byomkesh Chakravarti
	,, Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.
	,, Mr R. Glen.

The following member abstained from voting :—

The Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri

The ayes being 16 and the noes 21, the motion was lost.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 58.—The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha to move that clause 8 (*bb*) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 59.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that clause 8 *bb* be omitted

List of Amendments—Motion No. 60.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that in line 2 of clause 8 *bb* the words "solely by reason of" be substituted for the words "owing to."

He said :—

"My Lord, now that the previous amendment is lost, I hope the Hon'ble Member will accept this amendment and clearly indicate in the clause that only such increase and decrease of valuation due solely to the land falling within the street alignment shall be disregarded.

This is the intention of the Hon'ble Member, I think, and it should be clearly stated so as to prevent any ambiguity."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, so far as this amendment goes, it is merely a matter of drafting. We all think that what the clause aims at is to lay down that so much of any increase or decrease as is due to the land falling within or near to the alignment of the projected public street shall be disregarded. I am not personally convinced that there is any doubt as regards the meaning of the clause as it stands in the Bill, but if my friend prefers, I am prepared to change the wording a little and put it in this way: 'If the market value has been increased or decreased owing to the land falling within or near the alignment of a projected public street, *so much of the increase or decrease as may be due to such cause* shall be disregarded.' But it appears to me that such a change is not really necessary."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"I thankfully accept this modification. It is on the same lines as my amendment No. 63 where very similar words occur."

The motion was then put in the following form and agreed to :—

That after the words "public street" in clause 8 (*bb*) the following words be substituted for those now standing in the Bill, namely :—

"so much of the increase or decrease as may be due to such cause shall be disregarded."

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur; Dr. Nilratan Sarkar; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; Babu S. N. Banerji.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 61.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that the words "or near to" in line 3 of clause 8 (*bb*) be omitted.

He said :—

"My Lord, this clause speaks not only of land falling within the alignment of a projected street, but also of land falling within or near to the alignment of the projected street. I can understand the acquiring of land falling within the projected public street, but I fail to see why the land near to it should also be taken into account. Large and extensive quantity of surplus land is included within the zone of acquisition and the retention of the words 'near to' will evidently apply to the surplus land. As surplus lands are exempted at the discretion of the Board under section 78 of the Act or disposed of under section 81 of the Act, absolutely on the Board's own terms, where is the necessity of applying this provision to the surplus land ? This provision is not to be found in the Bombay Improvement Act or in the English Town Planning Act."

The Hon'ble Dr. NILRATAN SARKAR said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support this amendment. The expression 'near to' appears to be very vague, and it should not find a place in any legislation. It might mean 100 or 1,000; it might mean anything. It might be near to one alignment or it may be near to another. For that reason the owners of a particular plot may be affected. I can well understand the appreciation of a plot of land near some alignment of some projected street, but I fail to understand why there should be any depreciation at all. It appears to me that there is some inconsistency also in the framing of this amendment. On the whole I think 'near to' should be omitted."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I am sorry I have to oppose this amendment. It seems to me that the principle is the same whether the land falls within a street alignment or is near a street alignment. Language is always more or less uncertain, but we can trust to the judgment of those who will deal with the matter to determine what is near and what is not near. We have, in some parts of the Act, referred to lands affected by a particular scheme. The same difficulty would probably arise in determining what are the precise lands that have been affected by a scheme and what are the lands that have not been so affected. When land falls outside a street alignment, but near it, there will naturally be a great deal of increase in the value of it, and if the land falls within a street alignment, there may also be increase due to speculators coming in and trying to get a high value from the Trust as compensation. So that under all circumstances it seems eminently desirable to provide for both cases, as the Trust will have to acquire not only what land is necessary in order to make a road, but also land near it. For these reasons such a provision seems to be necessary and I do not think we can accept the amendment."

The Hon'ble Babu SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I am sorry that the speech of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill is very unconvincing. The whole objection to that phrase 'near to' is its vagueness. My friend says that those who administer the law might be trusted to specify according to their judgment what should be understood by that phrase in a particular case. My Lord, we are making the law, and there is no reason why we should not take upon ourselves the responsibility of specifying what we mean by that expression. I think it is hardly consistent with the dignity or the duty of this legislature to keep a vague phrase like that and thus shift the responsibility on to other shoulders. Its vagueness is its greatest objection, and we ought not to allow vague expressions of that kind to find a place in the laws framed by this Council. We hope

Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq; Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; Babu S. N. Banerji.

that Your Excellency will kindly reconsider the position which has been taken in this matter and will not allow this matter to be left to be dealt with later on by administrators of the law who may not have the same opportunity of knowing things as we have at present."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, if I venture to interpose in this discussion it is not because I wish to add to the discussions that have already clustered around this unfortunate clause of the Bill, but because I wish to make it clear in this Council that the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has almost, if I may use the expression, added to our confusion. The Hon'ble Member has said that language and legal language must always be more or less vague."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"I never said that."

The Hon'ble MAULVI FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"I understood the Hon'ble Member to say that language cannot be precise; in all cases it may be more or less vague. But so far as we are concerned he said this much, that so far as the purpose of legislation goes, we cannot provide for all possible cases, and our language must necessarily be vague. I take exception to this statement, because if legislators leave their language more or less vague they will not only add to the difficulties of litigants, but to the task which Courts have in administering the law. Moreover, I do not think that the words 'near to' are of such a character that they can be easily appreciated even by those who will be responsible for administering the law in all cases which may come before them. The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji has said that language should be clear and precise, and he has also expressed a desire that in passing this provision into law the language should be made as clear and distinct as possible. I think, my Lord, it is not possible even for a legislature to define words so vague as 'near to.' It may mean 10 yards, 1,000 yards; it may mean 10 miles.

If this is so, I respectfully submit that an expression of such a character should be omitted from any legislation that we may undertake. With these words, I support the amendment."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, with reference to what has been said by the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq I may say that I could not possibly have said all that has been attributed to me. I know it is impossible always to express with precision everything that we want to convey. If we could do that, probably my friend the Hon'ble Maulvi Faz-ul-Huq would not have been where he is now, nor I where I am. We have to take human language with all its imperfections. If my friends were willing to assist us, they might have proposed a limit, say, of 200 or 300 feet."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI, interrupting, said :—

"Why should not we do it now?"

The Hon'ble NAWAB SHAMS-UL-HUDA continuing said :—

"No one has come forward with any such proposal and no amendment on these lines can now be considered. Now, if we look to Legislative enactments generally, we do not always find absolute precision. For instance, in this very Act you have the provision that any provision of this Act may be extended to any municipality in the neighbourhood of the Calcutta

Municipality.' Has it been defined what exactly the word 'neighbourhood' means or what distance constitutes neighbourhood? I can find hundreds of words of the same kind. As I have said it is impossible to define everything with scientific precision. A good deal must be left to the judgment and commonsense of the Court that will adjudicate on the value of land. We cannot make everything absolutely clear.'

The Hon'ble MR. BOMPAS said :—

"My Lord, may I point out that although the word 'near' may be vague, there will be no vagueness when you come to deal with concrete cases. If it were proposed to pass a law that when land is taken up near an alignment, the Collector shall pay double its value or half its value, then it would have been necessary to define with the utmost preciseness the limits within which such remarkable provisions should prevail. But, as it is, in every particular case the question will be whether the value of particular property has been affected, that is, increased or decreased by the alignment, and that is a question which can be decided in each particular case, because obviously the decrease and increase will have to be marked and the person who claims it will have to prove the market value of that plot of land and that it is not the same as the market value of similar plots of land in the neighbourhood. Therefore it does not matter. You will not have to decide in any particular case whether the land is sufficiently near or sufficiently far from the road alignment to take in or out of this clause. All that the Collector will have to decide is whether it has been affected by its proximity.'

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I do not wish to raise any controversy with the Hon'ble Member in charge over the expression 'near to.' More competent persons than myself—my Hon'ble friend Babu Surendra Nath Banerji and Maulvi Faz-ul-Huq—have dealt with it. I do not quarrel with the Hon'ble Member in charge. I crave for a sympathetic hearing at his hands. My Lord, I have gained some experience of the working of the Trust in various Committees and Sub-Committees, and I wish to know—and it is yet to be stated—what is the reason of having these words 'near to'? My Lord, a street scheme is published; there is the line drawn for a 100-feet road and the blue verge of acquisition goes some 200 or 300 feet on both sides of the street. That is the zone of acquisition of surplus lands. Therefore under section 78 of the Act these surplus lands outside the actual roadline are set free on payment of certain exemption fees. This is the way the Trust is working for the last three years and there has been no difficulty. Sitting in small committees, what I have found is this: a man's property falls on the roadway in a 100-feet road; he has got another piece of land which is by the side of it; and it is said that if you give up this land free and pay us something in cash then we will exempt the land which is outside the actual roadline. This is the way in which section 78 is worked. It is a technical section, and I do not know whether I have made myself clear, but this is the way the operation of the Trust is going on. There has been no difficulty as regards the acquisition of land falling within the roadline and as regards the fixing of exemption fee—where is the necessity of inserting the words 'near to' again? The Hon'ble Member in charge has not given us any special reason or cited any concrete case which requires the insertion of these words. My Lord, as regards ambiguity, I will say this. We have to deal with a lot of ambiguities and, where specially, as we have no appeal to the Tribunal, we have to submit to the interpretation of the Board. Take, for instance, Council House Street: supposing it is to be widened 100 feet; within say about 60 or 70 or 100 feet there is an Insurance office, who have got a piece of land in Old Court House Street. It may be said that the value of that land has been increased. That is the reason why there is apprehension in public mind. In Bombay there is some limit to the acquisition of the surplus land. I understand it is 80 feet there on both sides of the street. Having regard to these facts, I think it would be a

gracious concession to public opinion if these words are omitted. The Trust would not be a loser by a single farthing—the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas will see to that."

A division was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes—17.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.
The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar.
The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. Goham Hossein Cassim Ariff.
The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul Huq.
The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.
The Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.
The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray.
The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain.
The Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri.
The Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray.
The Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, Amir-ul-Omrah, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.
The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri Khan Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

Noes—21.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shamsul Huda.
The Hon'ble Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. J. G. Cumming, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. L. Stephenson, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. F. Samman.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. H. Green.
The Hon'ble Mr. F. A. A. Cowley.
The Hon'ble Mr. B. B. Newbould.
The Hon'ble Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
The Hon'ble Rai Priya Nath Mukherji Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Surgeon General G. F. A. Harris, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. C. F. Payne.
The Hon'ble Mr. C. H. Bompas.
The Hon'ble Mr. W. W. Hornell.
The Hon'ble Mr. F. J. Monahan.
The Hon'ble Mr. W. T. Grieve.
The Hon'ble Mr. G. A. Bayley.
The Hon'ble Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.
The Hon'ble Mr. Bray.
The Hon'ble Mr. F. H. Stewart, C.I.E.

The following Members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. B. C. Mitra.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. J. Hilary.
The Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.
The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Hossain Haider Chaudhuri Khan Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Rai Prasanna Kumar Ray Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Dr. Disha Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir Satyendra Prasanna Sinha, K.C.
The Hon'ble Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkesh Chakravarti.
The Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.
The Hon'ble Mr. R. Glen.

The ayes being 17 and the noes 21, the motion was lost.

The following motions were, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 62.—The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar to move that the words "or near to" in line 3 of clause 8 (*bb*) be omitted.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 63.—If motion No. 57 be not carried, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that for the words "such increase or decrease shall be disregarded" in lines 4 and 5 of clause 8 (*bb*) the following be substituted, namely :—

"so much only of the increase or decrease, if any, as may be due to such cause shall be disregarded."

List of Amendments—Motion No. 64.—If neither motion No. 57 nor motion No. 63 be carried, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur to move that the brackets and words "(if any)" be inserted after the word "decrease" in line 4 of clause 8 (*bb*).

List of Amendments—Motion No. 65.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that the brackets and words "(exceeding eight feet in height)" in lines 5 and 6 of clause 8 (*bbb*) be omitted.

Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda ; Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.

Clause 8.

New Amendment 65A.—The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA, with the permission of the President, moved that for the word "eight" in clause 8 (*bbb*) the word "ten" be substituted.

He said :—

"This hardly needs an explanation. The words in the Bill are 'exceeding eight feet in height.' As a matter of fact, we have accepted, in connection with a prior amendment, 'ten feet' as the maximum height and hence the necessity for this amendment, which is merely consequential."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The following motion was, by leave of the President, withdrawn :—

List of Amendments—Motion No. 66.—The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray to move that the words "at building line" in line 7 of clause 8 (*bbb*) be omitted.

[*The discussion of Motions Nos. 23 and 24 in the List of Amendments, which had been postponed from the meeting of the 2nd March, was then taken up.*]

List of Amendments—Motion No. 23.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, with regard to Amendment No. 23, the redraft of the clause, which has been shown to me this morning, will meet the requirements I have in view, namely, that when a notification is cancelled the fact will be notified in the Gazette."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I would suggest that the following be substituted for Amendment No. 23, namely :—

'That, instead of the words 'the said notification has been cancelled' in line 12 of sub-section (*6*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill), the following be substituted, namely :—

'the said notification has been cancelled by another notification' :"

Motion 23, in its amended form, was then put and agreed to.

List of Amendments—Motion No. 24.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved that after sub-section (*6*) of the proposed new section 63 (clause 3 of the Bill) the following be added, namely :—

"(*6a*) Where any land has been acquired after the issue of a notification under sub-section (*6*) sanctioning the plan of the proposed public street, the owner from whom such land has been acquired, or his successor in interest, shall, if such notification is subsequently cancelled, have the right to reclaim the land on payment of a sum not exceeding the compensation paid to him."

He said :—

"My Lord, after a projected public street has been sanctioned by the Local Government, lands and buildings falling within the alignment may be acquired and, suppose subsequently the Local Government deem fit to cancel the notification about a projected public street, what is to become of the land or building acquired in the meanwhile? Justice demands that the land should be returned to the owner or his successor in interest upon payment to the Board of the amount of compensation received by such owner. In other words, it is only fair that the parties should be placed in the same position as they were before the making of the proposed scheme."

Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda; Babu S. N. Banerji; Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur; Mr. Bompas.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I was prepared to consider the principle of this amendment, but a difficulty has arisen. We are advised that to a certain extent the amendment affects the principles of the Land Acquisition Act, and we are not authorised to accept such an amendment without the permission of the Government of India. I am therefore very sorry that although I am inclined to sympathise with the principle I am not able to accept the amendment proposed by my Hon'ble friend. It is possible, indeed likely, that after some time we shall have to amend the Calcutta Improvement Act in certain other particulars, and probably we may then take the opportunity of approaching the Government of India with some such proposal as that contained in this amendment. We will consider that matter in due course, but I cannot make any promise now. For the present, having regard to the technical difficulties brought to our notice, I am sorry I cannot accept this amendment."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, if the principle is accepted by the Government, I think this matter might be postponed for the sanction of the Government of India, and then it might be dealt with. There is no great hurry about it: the rest of the Bill might be passed and this matter be allowed to stand over. If the Land Acquisition Act is likely to be modified, this and other provisions will have to be considered, and it might be postponed until either sanction has been obtained from the Government of India or until after the Land Acquisition Act has been so dealt with. I think the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill may see his way to accede to this."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Hon'ble friend can withdraw his proposal and rely on us to consider it afterwards. The proposal which he makes is a new one, and, so far as we are concerned, at the present moment we are unable to accept it; but if my Hon'ble friend will withdraw his amendment, we shall consider whether we should not in due course approach the Government of India in connection with this matter."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, the principle is seemingly admitted, which is my good fortune. Now, my Lord, it is stated that this provision cannot be accepted without the sanction of the Government of India when the entire Act may be revised. This might perhaps take some years, and in the meantime the people will suffer. May I not crave Your Excellency, for the sake of the people under your Excellency's sway, to postpone the passing of this Bill for a fortnight in order to make a reference to the Government of India, and then the Bill can be passed? If the principle is considered just and proper, should it not be given effect to? I am entirely in your Excellency's hands."

The Hon'ble MR. BOMPAS said :—

"My Lord, may I point out that there will not be any practical inconvenience to let the law stand as it is, as what the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur is asking for is actually contained within the Act as it stands. Obviously, if the Trust acquired land for a street alignment and the street alignment were abandoned, the Trust would proceed to dispose of the land. Under section 81 the Trust is bound to offer the land in the first case to the previous owners of the land from whom it was acquired. Nothing is said about the price, but obviously the price of the land would not have been affected if no road had been made and no improvement carried out, and assuming the Trust honestly tries to carry out the intentions of the Act, the price would be

unaffected and would be actually the price at which the land was acquired. But section 81, which does that, is a complete section and provides for the various interests being represented. The Hon'ble Mover of the amendment says the owner of the land is to have the land back at the price that he has been paid for it, but he may have been paid a fractional part of the price. The Collector has compensated the lessees, etc., and the actual owner may have only received part of the value of the land. The principle of the amendment may be unobjectionable, but the amendment could not possibly be acted upon in its present form."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, when the promise is given that the matter will be taken up later on, we must be content. With reference to the proposal of the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas, I know section 81 which we work from week to week. My proposal is that the land is to be returned at the price at which it was purchased and that is not provided in section 81. The Board may dispose of it at any price, and that is the difficulty I wanted to overcome."

The motion was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

New Amendment No. 24A—The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA, with the permission of the President, moved the following supplementary amendment :—

"That, at the end of line 12 of sub-section (*6*) of the proposed new section 53 (clause 3 of the Bill), the following words be added :—

"Provided that such cancellation shall not affect the validity of any action taken by the Board in pursuance of the said notification."

He said :—

"I think, my Lord, it will be conceded that such a provision as this is an absolutely necessary addition to sub-section (*6*), because, if a notification is cancelled and certain rights and interests have in the meantime accrued under anything that has been done under cover of that notification in the exercise of the powers vested in the Board by this Bill, it is necessary that these rights and interests should be safeguarded. For instance, if the Board have dealt with land in any way while the original notification is in force, then a claim may arise. But if the notification is cancelled everything that has been done under that notification could be swept away as the effect of that cancellation unless you provide otherwise. Therefore it is necessary to have such a provision, and I accordingly move that it be inserted in the Bill."

The amendment was put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 10.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA moved that the Secretary be directed to renumber the clauses and sub-clauses of the Bill in consecutive order, and to make corresponding alterations in all cross references thereto.

The motion was put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 11.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA moved that the Bill, as settled in Council, be passed.

He said :—

"My Lord, in asking that the Bill as settled in Council be passed I wish just to say a few words by way of explanation. I am aware that a certain amount of dissatisfation has been caused by the rejection by this Council of a large number of amendments moved by non-official members. Hon'ble Members would, however, remember that in a matter of this kind Government have no interest except the interest which they themselves represent. The

Trust is not a Department of Government, and Government only exercise a certain amount of statutory control over the Trust. Government have no reason, therefore, to take a partisan attitude in this legislation. As I said in the very beginning when opposing the motion for adjournment that within the limits of the Calcutta Municipality the powers we are now conferring on the Improvement Trust are exercisable by the General Committee of the Corporation, and I wonder why what was good for the General Committee of the Corporation should not be considered equally good for the Trust? The attitude of the non-official Members seems to have been largely influenced by a distrust of the body by whom the powers given by the Bill would be exercised. I sincerely regret this feeling. The Trust have just begun their work, and it would be an asset of great value to them if they could enlist on their side the co-operation of the Calcutta public. That at this stage, when the work of the Trust has been mainly of a destructive character, feelings should be roused against their operations is not unnatural, but I am certain that when the Trust have built their broad roads and laid down their fine avenues the Calcutta land-owners will realise that the Trust is their best friend and benefactor. There seems also to exist an apprehension in the minds of the non-official Members that the Trust will take advantage of the powers given to them by this Bill to hurl on the heads of the public hasty and ill-considered schemes, and then, like an octopus, s read their arms on all sides, taking possession of everybody's land, doing nothing with them themselves, and allowing no one to do anything with them either. That, having thus prevented building operations on any large scale, they will ultimately withdraw most of their plans and make fresh ones. It was this feeling that led to the proposal for fixing a time-limit after which a proposed public street should cease to be such within the meaning of the law. If the Trust were an irresponsible and a malevolent body, having no regard for the interest or convenience of the land-owners of this town, I would have felt the strongest sympathy with this desire of the non-official Members for a time-limit. But everyone must realise that the Trust exists for the improvement of this town, in the progress and prosperity of which non-officials are even more vitally interested than the officials, and I have no doubt that the powers that have been placed in the hands of the Trust will be used with moderation and with due regard to the interests and the susceptibilities of the public at large, and that it will not take long for the citizens of Calcutta and the Calcutta Improvement Trust to find out how much of the future well-being and prosperity of this town under the present adverse conditions depend on their mutual goodwill. I hope that this explanation will satisfy Hon'ble Members of this Council and remove any feeling of irritation that may exist, remembering that there was no time more fitting than the present for my countrymen to show their whole-hearted co-operation with Government."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, may I be permitted to make one or two observations with reference to the remarks which have fallen from my Hon'ble friend opposite? My friend seems to be under the impression that we on this side of the House are inspired by some malevolent feeling towards the Trust. On behalf of the non-official Indian Members, I will say this that we entertain no such feeling whatsoever. If any feeling of mistrust—I will not characterize it as a feeling of irritation—has been aroused in the minds of the Indian community, I think the Trust itself is largely responsible for the creation of that feeling. I think that that feeling has found expression in the columns of various newspapers and I believe also in the utterances of many of our public men, and we, who are here representing the views of the public and who act as their spokesmen, feel it our duty to give expression to that feeling in as strong, clear and emphatic a manner as we can. All that we seek to do on this side of the House is to provide safeguards against the abuse of power. My Lord, power is a most dangerous thing, and the chief object of the machinery of modern administration is to devise safeguards against the abuse of power and authority

wherever it is vested. Large powers are conceded to the Trust, and proper safeguards have to be provided in order that these powers may not unconsciously be abused. I think, we are helping your Excellency's Government by proposing amendments and provisions which would have this effect, and in this we were performing a public duty. It is therefore very much to be regretted that in the discharge of those duties we should be accused of being inspired by any malevolent feeling. I do hope and trust, my Lord, that the Trust will so conduct itself that when its labours are over the public of Calcutta will congratulate it on its success. It depends on the Trust whether that hope shall be realized or whether it shall prove futile."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, before this motion is put to the vote, I desire most cordially to acknowledge the patience, courtesy and forbearance with which the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill conducted the deliberations of the Select Committee and also in this Council. Although it has not been our good fortune to succeed in getting many of our amendments accepted by this Council or by the Select Committee, I am grateful that some concession has been made, however small it may be. I avail myself of this opportunity of stating one fact, and it is this, that there should be no impression in the mind of anyone, whether inside or outside this Council, that there is any feeling of antipathy towards the Trust. We, Indians or Europeans, all welcome the improvement of Calcutta, and I would ask the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill to examine the records of the Calcutta Improvement Trust. I think he will find that the Indian Members have generally supported the schemes for opening out broad roads through the congested parts of the city. Thanks to the enlightenment and culture which we receive under the ægis of British rule, we appreciate the necessity for the improvement of this town. We know that it is for our well-being ; but we are not agreed as to the ways in which it might be carried out. I have been urged by a large section of my countrymen, whom I have met during the last few months, to give expression before your Excellency's august presence to the feeling of dissatisfaction which pervades this community. And to what is this dissatisfaction due?

The wide, extensive and unlimited acquisition of surplus lands, the exorbitant and crushing exemption fees without any appeal to any constituted tribunal, the payment of 16 times the annual value of buildings added to the fact of the deprivation of the statutory allowance of 15 per cent. as compensation and of the right of appeal to the High Court—all these have engendered in the minds of the people a grave dissatisfaction. And, my Lord, who are the people affected? They are not the so-called big landlords, but the poor and middle-class people. The oriental people whom you meet in the street or in office or in the market—even the poorest of them—possess a chittack or a cottah of land at least for his dwelling tenement, and these are the people who will be largely affected by the operations of the Trust. What we feel, my Lord, is this, that while we frankly acknowledge the honesty of purpose, the best of motives and the single-mindedness with which the Chairman of the Trust sets to work, we must say that the method of work is one which is not approved by the community at large which we represent. There must be some radical change. The sentiments to which I give expression to-day before Your Excellency will be laid some day before Your Excellency with a view to some amendment of this Act, so that the wide and unlimited powers which the Board now possess for the acquisition of surplus land may be to some extent limited, and there should be some tribunal to decide what should be the exemption fees. I do not wish, my Lord, at this hour to take up the time of this Council, but I cordially join the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill in the hope that the Act which is now passed in the face of strenuous opposition will be enforced with moderation and utmost consideration to the feelings of the people."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Mr. Beatson Bell.

RESOLUTIONS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 12 to 14.

(UNDER THE RULES FOR THE DISCUSSION OF MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.)

12. The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI moved the following resolution :—

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken for the establishment, under the financial aid of the State, of Industrial Co-operative Societies in the various districts of this Presidency."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord, I think it would facilitate the course of the debate if I state at once that Government are prepared to accept this resolution if there be a small amendment made in it. I beg to suggest that instead of the words 'financial aid of the State,' the words 'on a sound financial basis' be substituted. The Resolution would then read :—

'This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken for the establishment, on a sound financial basis, of Industrial Co-operative Societies in the various districts of this Presidency.'"

[The Hon'ble Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri was understood to intimate that he was prepared to accept the modification proposed, but he proceeded to read a speech in support of his resolution. The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji thereupon rose and suggested that the speech be taken as read. His Excellency the President, however, ruled that such a proceeding would not be in order and that it was open to the Hon'ble Member to proceed with his speech if he so desired, even though it might not seem, in the circumstances, that there was much debateable matter to discuss.

Several Hon'ble Members :—'Accept, accept.']

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI said :—

"My Lord, I most gladly accept the modification suggested by the Hon'ble Member. The speech which I was about to make was merely a speech of thanks to the Government for the sympathetic consideration accorded to my resolution. I am sorry that some of my friends should seemingly desire to taken exception to my making it."

The Resolution was then put in the modified form and agreed to.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI also moved the following resolution :—

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken to provide for Government, or Government-guaranteed, industrial loans for the encouragement of small home industries in this Presidency."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord, I may say again that if a slight amendment be made in this resolution we shall be very glad to accept it. I would modify it as follows :—

'This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken for the encouragement by all practical means of small home industries in this Presidency'."

Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri; Mr. Beatson Bell; The President.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI said :—

"My Lord, I accept the modification suggested by the Hon'ble Member."

The resolution was then put in the modified form and agreed to.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI also moved the following resolution :—

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken for—

(*a*) the establishment in this Presidency of small Agricultural and Dairy Farms and Fruit culture and Preserve industries for the training and employment of educated youths ; and

(*b*) the appointment of practical lecturers and financial advisers for the benefit of the peasant and industrial classes."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord, may I intimate to the Hon'ble Member that if he makes a few very unimportant changes in his resolution we shall be glad to accept it ? My suggestion is that the resolution should read thus :—

'This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that further steps be taken—

(*a*) for encouraging the educated youths of this Presidency to take up agricultural farming, dairy farming, fruit farming and fruit preserving as their profession in life ; and

(*b*) for disseminating agricultural and economic knowledge among the peasantry and industrial classes.'"

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI said :—

"My Lord, I beg to accept the resolution as modified by the Hon'ble Member."

The resolution was then put in the modified form and agreed to.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"Before adjourning the Council, there is one matter which I should like to mention to Hon'ble Members. Rule 17 of the Rules of Business lays down :—

'Votes shall be taken by voices, by show of hands, or by division, and shall always be taken by division if any Member so desires.'

I think it might possibly meet with the wishes of some Members if on a future occasion the President should, in suitable circumstances, exercise his discretion of taking votes by show of hands. It would save a good deal of time. Of course any Hon'ble Member will always have the right of insisting on my taking a division if he so wishes. But I think it might perhaps frequently meet the convenience of Members if I actually tried to ascertain the sense of the Council by calling for a show of hands, and I propose to do this more frequently in future."

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to Friday, the 5th March, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal and Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA ;
The 17th March, 1915.

B. S. Press—24-4-1915—4163J—300—

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Friday, the 5th March, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA, Ordinary Member of the Council, *presiding.*

The Hon'ble Mr. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Surgeon-General G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAIN RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

THE AMENDED DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell presented the amended draft Financial Statement for Bengal for 1915-16.

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"Sir, I beg to lay on the table the Amended Draft Financial Statement,* and the revised estimate for the current year. The Council is already aware of the financial situation of India in general and of Bengal in particular, and I need not say anything in general terms to-day. The various heads will be explained in detail by the different members who are immediately concerned.

The broad outline of the situation is merely this : that in the coming year we can, for obvious reasons, expect no help in the way of doles from the Government of India. We at first thought that we would not be able to draw at all on our provincial balances, but I am glad to say that the Government of India have been generous to us in this respect, and have allowed us to draw upon our provincial balances at first to the extent of 25 lakhs, and afterwards to the extent of 29 lakhs. They have given us this extra four lakhs, as Hon'ble Members are aware, in order that the work might proceed on the Calcutta University Institute and on the Baker Hostel which, we feared at one time, might have to be postponed indefinitely. These two good works are going on, thanks to the special arrangements made by the Government of India. Apart, however, from the 29 lakhs, we have to rely upon our own resources and we must be very economical all round. I take this opportunity of thanking the Heads of Departments and my friends, the non-officials members of this Council, for the generous way in which they have realized the situation and have treated the Financial Department. We would be only too glad to provide funds for them, but as everyone realises, it is impossible to do this, and I thank those who have helped us so generously in this matter."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

1—Land-revenue.

EXPENDITURE—

3.—Land-revenue.
8.—Provincial Rates.
18.—General Administration.

* This statement was identical with the Revised Financial Statement as presented to the Council on the 18th March, 1915, except for one or two minor alterations as outlined in the memorandum attached to that statement.

Mr. Beatson Bell; Mr. Kerr.

He said :—

"Sir, I have the honour to introduce the budget heads relating to Land-revenue, Provincial Rates and General Administration. As regards Provincial Rates and General Administration, I have nothing to add to the remarks in the Draft Financial Statement. Under the head "Land-revenue", it may be noted that the revised estimate of receipts for 1914-15 is nearly 12 lakhs less than the sanctioned estimate. There is a decrease of 1½ lakhs under ordinary revenue, due to the fact that the unsatisfactory nature of the winter rice harvest in the Government estates in Contai rendered it impossible to collect the greater part of the revenue which was suspended in the previous year owing to floods. There is a deficit of over 4½ lakhs in the recoveries on account of survey and settlement charges, due mainly to the set-back which was given to recovery operations in the Eastern Bengal districts by the fall in the price of jute, which occurred after the outbreak of the war. The same reason, coupled with a comparatively poor winter rice harvest, accounts for another deficit of 6½ lakhs in the rent collections in Government estate. For 1915-16, we estimate that the total receipts will be 291 lakhs, or about 5 lakhs less than the sanctioned estimate for the current year. The uncertainty regarding the future of the jute market and the course of trade generally makes it impossible to estimate with any degree of accuracy the amount which will be recovered on account of the cost of Survey and Settlement Operations and on account of the rent collections in Government estates. We have therefore thought it advisable to make a cautious estimate under these heads. The expenditure to be debited to the Land-revenue head shews a slight increase, as we have assumed that the existing restrictions on the grant of leave will continue throughout the year and that consequently a larger number of officers will be at work and drawing full pay than would ordinarily be the case. In other respects, the estimate has been framed with the strictest regard to economy, but I am glad to say that it has been possible to provide a special grant of Rs. 1,20,000 for the improvement of Government estates. Of this amount Rs. 70,000 will be devoted to the development of the successful colonisation operations in Bakarganj which promise to be highly remunerative, and Rs. 50,000 to improvements in other Government estates."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 3.

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

IX—Forests.

EXPENDITURE—

11—Forests.

REVENUE—

XXIA—Agriculture.

EXPENDITURE—

26A—Agriculture.

REVENUE—

XXIB—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.

EXPENDITURE—

26B—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.

Mr. Kerr.

He said :—

"Sir, I have the honour to introduce the budget heads relating to the Forest Department. Like many other items in the Provincial Budget, they bear traces of the dislocation of business caused by the war. The fall in the price of jute has seriously affected the purchasing powers of persons connected with the jute industry who are large customers for *sâl* timber, and concessions have had to be made in regard to many important timber contracts which were entered into before the outbreak of the war. The result is that instead of realising a revenue of 16 lakhs in the current year, we expect that our receipts will not now rise much above 13 lakhs. For next year we have estimated a revenue of 14½ lakhs, but much will depend on conditions which cannot now be foreseen. It is, however, reasonable to expect that there will be some recovery shortly in the demand for timber and other forest produce. The estimates of expenditure have also been somewhat curtailed in view of the urgent need for economy, and some much-needed improvements in the equipment of the department will have to stand over until funds are available.

I turn now to the items which were formerly dealt with under the head "Scientific and other Minor Departments." Under recent orders of the Government of India this head has now been divided into two, "XXI—A and 26—A—Agriculture" and "XXI—B and 26—B—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments." Apart from the advantage of clearer accounting thus effected, this change does away with the somewhat invidious nomenclature under which the Agricultural and other Scientific Departments were formerly officially classified as minor departments. Under the head XXI—A are shown the Agricultural receipts and the Veterinary receipts, the receipts from Agriculture including receipts on account of Botanical and other public gardens and experimental cultivation; while under the head 26—A are shown expenditure relating to the Agricultural and Veterinary Departments and the Department which deals with Co-operative Societies. The other items of receipts and expenditure under the old head have now been included under the new head 'Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.'

The receipts of the Agricultural and Veterinary Departments are not important and no detailed explanation of the variations in the budget need be given. The expenditure side of the budget has unfortunately been affected by the financial stringency. The revised estimate for the current year amounts to Rs. 9,76,000 as compared with Rs. 11,86,000 in the sanctioned budget. The decrease is mainly due to lapses in the special grants. It was decided that in the present financial situation it would be impossible to start any large new projects which would involve heavy expenditure during the financial year 1915-16. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 11,17,000. Here again we have been obliged to confine ourselves to making provision for carrying on the current work of the department, and it has not been found possible to allow for any large expansion or the undertaking of new schemes. Full provision has, however, been made for the needs of the Co-operative Department which are rapidly growing on account of the very satisfactory expansion of the Co-operative movement in this Province. Under the new head 'Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments' the revised estimate of receipts for 1914-15 amounts to Rs. 4,30,000 as against the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 1,87,000. The increase is mainly due to the credit of three-fifths of the sale proceeds of quinine treatments sold through the agency of Civil Surgeons, and to the satisfactory sale of quinine sulphate of which a large stock was laid in during the previous year. There has also been a nominal increase of some Rs. 40,000 on account of fees for the registration of Joint Stock Companies, which have previously been credited under the Registration head. The estimate of receipts for the next year has been put at Rs. 3,53,000. The expenditure under this head for 1915-16 is estimated at Rs. 5,05,000 against the revised estimate of Rs. 5,28,000 for the current year. The decrease is due mainly to economies which it is necessary to effect in view of the financial situation."

Mr. Stephenson.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 4.

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

V—Excise.

EXPENDITURE—

7—Excise.

He said :—

"Sir, I have the honour to introduce the Excise heads.

Turning to the Excise estimates, at the beginning of the year we raised the duty on country spirit over a large portion of the Province and there was a considerable increase in the license fees realised in the current year. We anticipated a decreased consumption and the revenue of the year was estimated at 158 lakhs, being a little over 4 lakhs more than the actuals of the last year. It might have been anticipated that the effects of the increase in duty, the abolition of a considerable number of shops and the restricted hours of sale over most of the Province would be felt most in the first quarter of the current year, but during the first four months the revenue showed a steady increase over last year and the consumption of country spirit and *ganja* showed no marked tendency to decrease. On the outbreak of war there was a marked decrease in consumption and in every month since the figures have been consistently lower than those for last year, the decrease on the whole being greatest in the jute districts and Calcutta. The total decrease in consumption to the end of January compared with last year's figures is nearly 75,000 gallons in country spirit, 11,000 seers of *ganja* and 5,000 seers of opium. It is sometimes complained that agricultural prosperity or the reverse is too readily accepted as the explanation for variations in Excise figures, but I think these facts do show conclusively that Excise consumption does in the main depend upon agricultural conditions even more than restrictive measures and within limits is an index of the prosperity or reverse of the Province. While from a temperance point of view the figures are no doubt acceptable, we must be prepared for a considerable rise in consumption again when normal conditions are restored. We now anticipate that our revenue will be slightly higher that that of last year, the increase in the first four months being nearly wiped out by the decreases since and the revised is placed at 155 lakhs. Next year we are raising the treasury price of opium to Rs. 40 per seer and the duty on *ganja* from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 a seer. The settlements so far made show very varying results, but on the whole the higher duties on *ganja* and opium will more than counterbalance the decrease in license fees. We hope that agricultural conditions will improve and we place the estimate of Excise revenue at 160 lakhs, being 5 lakhs more than the revised estimate of the current year.

As regards expenditure, sanction has been received in the current year for the reorganisation proposals and steps have been taken to put them in train. The total increase of expenditure will be 2½ lakhs, but in the present circumstances we have only been able to repeat in the next year's budget the provision of 1½ lakhs which we made in the current year. The reorganisation therefore can only be partially effected. Some improvement of conditions has already been granted to meet the more urgent claims of the Department and provision has been made to place the Excise Administration of districts under Superintendents of Excise from the commencement of the next year; but the addition to the numbers and the complete regrading of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors will have to be postponed till we can find the money in the following year."

Mr. Stephenson; *Mr. Cumming.*

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON introduced the following heads :—

EXPENDITURE—

6—Stamps.

10—Assessed Taxes.

He said :—

"Turning now to the heads of expenditure under '6—Stamps' and '10—Assessed Taxes,' the heads are equally divided between Imperial and Provincial Revenues. The figures under the head 'Stamps' are to be found in page 41 of the Financial Statement. It is estimated that the expenditure next year will be Rs. 6,05,000 against Rs. 5,51,000, the revised estimate, and Rs. 7,52,000 in the budget for 1914-15. The decrease in the revised estimate is partly under discount owing to the smaller sale of stamps but chiefly under cost of stamp paper, as favourable terms have been obtained from the contractors. In 1915-16 larger provision has been made for discount on the larger sale of stamps and for the consequent larger supply of stamp papers from Central Stores.

The figures relating to expenditure under the head 'Assessed Taxes' are concerned with the establishment for the collection of tax. There is nothing special in the figures to which I need draw attention."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 6.

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING introduced the following head :—

EXPENDITURE—

19A —Courts of Law.

He said :—

"Sir, I have the honour to introduce the figures relating to Courts of Law.

The total budget estimate for 1914-15 which was 99½ lakhs has been raised to over one crore in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The increase is chiefly under the head 'Law Officers,' and is due to larger payments on account of legal fees in connection with the several political cases. Expenditure under the head 'Civil and Sessions Courts' and arrear payments on account of the revision of the Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned towards the close of 1913-14 also contributed towards the general increase.'

The total estimate for the year 1915-16 has been fixed at Rs. 1,01,24,000. This includes provision for the sanctioned number of High Court Judges, the Inspector of Judicial offices and the Registrar of Insolvency. Larger provision has also been made for fees to pleaders in criminal and civil suits in the mufassal, and to meet increased demands for rates and taxes and contingencies of the Presidency Magistrates' Courts owing to the division of the Courts and their location in three places.

No provision has been made for new major works under the head 'Courts of Law'. Only five projects have been selected provisionally. These are (1) the construction of double Munsifi at Bhola, (2) a Munsif's residence at Sherpur, (3) additions to the Munsif's Court buildings at Contai, (4) a quadruple Munsifi at Netrakona, and (5) a new record-room in the District Judge's Court, Midnapore. They will be treated as works in progress during next year. A sum of Rs. 8,000 has been provided for judicial minor works in the Provincial Civil Works Budget for the year 1915-16."

Mr. Cumming.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 7.

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

XVII—Police.

EXPENDITURE—

20—Police.

REVENUE—

XVIII—Jails.

EXPENDITURE—

19B—Jails.

He said :—

"Sir, I have the honour to introduce the heads of expenditure under 20—Police and 19 B Jails, and in doing so I desire to refer simply to the outstanding features of the Budget.

As regards Calcutta, rules will be issued shortly under the new Motor Vehicles Act. In order to provide for their efficient administration and to cope with the great increase of motor traffic in Calcutta in recent years, the staff at present employed on motor traffic duty requires to be strengthened. Provision has been made accordingly in the Budget.

The Police staff on duty in Bara Bazar has been temporarily increased in order to effect the more efficient patrolling of that thoroughfare.

I now turn to the Bengal Police Budget. Provision was made in last year's budget for the recurring expenditure necessary to complete the reorganization of the Subordinate Police and River Police in Eastern Bengal; but owing to difficulties in recruiting and lack of proper accommodation, it was not possible to give full effect to the schemes, and a provision of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 40,222 respectively has accordingly been made this year.

The organization of the Police in respect of numbers, equipment and conditions of service generally is still susceptible of much improvement. A lump provision of Rs. 5,51,023 has been made for 11 new projects, the principal items of which I shall now mention.

As regards the reorganization of the Subordinate Police and organization of the River Police in Eastern Bengal districts, an Imperial grant of 4 lakhs for non-recurring expenditure on launches and buildings has been made.

The boat establishment in Eastern Bengal was last under revision between the years 1876-95. During the last 20 years the cost of living, wages of labour and rates of boat-hire have risen considerably, but no increase has been sanctioned either in the pay of boatmen or in the scale of allowances allowed to Police Officers for the hire of boats. An increased number of boats is also necessary for efficient Police work in water-logged districts during the rains. The extra expenditure involved is Rs. 59,265 per annum on account of permanent and Rs. 37,856 on account of temporary boat establishment; but effect will be given to the scheme gradually as funds permit, and Rs. 49,000 has now been provided in the budget.

The pressure of work at headquarters has been much augmented owing to the increased attention now being paid to the problems of Police Administration, and with the sanction of His Majesty's Secretary of State a second Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police has been appointed.

It is proposed to split up the section of the E. I. R. which formerly lay within the old Province of Bengal into two Superintendents' charges, and the jurisdiction of each Superintendent will be fixed as far as possible in accordance with Provincial boundaries. This involves an increase of staff.

The Inspector-General of Police has also represented the need of a permanent detachment of armed Police at Serajganj, and an increase in the armed Police reserves at Bogra and Malda.

A scheme for the more efficient safeguarding of Government treasuries has been approved, and provision has been made for an increase in the number of guards employed on this important duty.

As regards the Jails Budget, there are no items of new expenditure costing more than Rs. 5,000 in 1915-16.

The current year's total provision of Rs. 2,50,000 for warder establishment has been retained in the budget. This includes part provision, as in the current year, for the scheme for the revision of the warder establishment, details of which are still under discussion with the Government of India.

As the industry of printing, which was the main industry in the Dacca Central Jail, has ceased, owing to the creation of a new Press in Bihar and the centralization in Calcutta, a new industry had to be started : and blanket manufacture was selected for the Dacca Jail. Another reason was that the old blanket manufactory at Bhagalpur had been transferred to the Bihar Province. The new machinery provided for in the current year's budget is being received from England by instalments, and an establishment consisting of a qualified European Deputy Superintendent and Indian Assistants has been appointed. Arrangements have been made to start the factory as soon as possible.

The sanctioned estimate of Rs. 5,00,000 for dietary charges for 1914-15 has been increased, in accordance with the actuals for 1913-14 and the first five months of the current year, to Rs. 6,25,000

The provision under the head 'Superintendents and Jailors' has been reduced in view of anticipated savings in salaries owing to the reversion of officers to military duty."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 8.

The Hon'ble MR. HORNELL introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

XIX—Education.

EXPENDITURE—

22—Education.

He said :—

"Sir, I have the honour to introduce the heads of Revenue and Expenditure in the Education Budget for 1915-16.

2. As regards the receipt side I shall merely mention one or two points. The first is an item of Rs. 16,000 against 'fees and fines' in Eastern Bengal Madrasahs. Hitherto the amounts realised under this head were credited to the Mohsin Fund. In future they are to be regarded as departmental receipts. A word of explanation is necessary with regard to the change of procedure. The entire cost of the Dacca, Chittagong and Rajshahi Madrasahs has hitherto been met from the Mohsin Fund supplemented by a contribution

from Provincial Revenues. The income from 'fees and fines' was credited to the Fund. It has been considered expedient to modify the arrangement so as to show 'fees and fines' as departmental receipts and to debit the cost of the maintenance of the three Madrasahs, partly to Provincial Revenues and partly to the Mohsin Fund. The change of procedure which has been given effect to from the beginning of the current financial year will not operate to the disadvantage of the general scope of the Mohsin Fund as at present defined. I may also explain that the new arrangement will facilitate the introduction of a rearrangement now under consideration whereby the Mohsin Fund will be relieved of all responsibility in connexion with the cost of maintaining Government Madrasahs. The result of this arrangement will be that the whole of the above cost will be defrayed from public revenues, the money now expended for this purpose from the Mohsin Fund being set free for the provision of scholarships for Muhammadan students, for increasing the allotment for free and partially free studentships for Muhammadan pupils and generally for improving the facilities for such pupils, which already exist in, or may hereafter be introduced into, ordinary colleges and schools and in Madrasahs which may adopt the reformed course.

3. The only other item on the revenue side which I need mention is the estimate of Rs. 24,000 for fee receipts against the proposed residential school. This school will be accommodated, to start with, at Hastings House, Alipore, which has been placed at the disposal of the Government of Bengal for this purpose for a period of five years. The details of the scheme have not yet been finally passed by the Secretary of State, but it has been decided with his consent to start the institution on a modest scale as soon as possible. Sanction has been accorded to the immediate appointment of a European assistant master and four Indian assistant masters, pending the introduction of the full scheme. We hope to be able to secure the services of a suitable European officer who is now available in India, and this officer will open the school and conduct it with the Indian masters, until the full staff has been recruited. Full particulars of the arrangements which it has been decided to make will be published as soon as possible. It is a pity that the introduction of the full scheme has been delayed but the war in Europe has made the recruitment in England of officers for educational work in India very difficult.

4. In turning to the expenditure side of the budget I need not dwell on the conditions which have made it necessary for the Education Department, in common with other departments, to face the new financial year with a restricted budget under certain heads.

5. The total of the charges provided from Provincial Revenues for the year in prospect amounts to Rs. 60,12,000 against a sanctioned provision of Rs. 61,00,000 for the current financial year. The reduction of Rs. 58,000 will fortunately involve no serious complications during the current year. The estimates of expenditure under certain heads as, for example, stipends to students in Guru-training schools and the lump provision for reforming the system of training of primary school teachers in East Bengal, under which heads the reduction referred to has chiefly been effected, are based upon the fulfilment of certain conditions. These conditions have not proved to be capable of easy or immediate fulfilment and the result is that while we provided last year for the expenditure under these heads of a certain amount as a maximum for 1914-15, the grant was not fully taken up and the amounts provided in the budget for 1915-16 are based on a calculation of the actual expenditure for the current financial year. Such additional expenditure as may normally be incurred under the above heads will be adjusted during the financial year 1915-16 with the help of savings which will by a similar process accrue under the recurring Imperial assignments for primary education. This method of adjustment will obviously be impracticable after a time for when the sanctioned schemes are in full working the maximum expenditure under each head in accordance with these schemes will be incurred. While therefore no

difficulty need be anticipated during the coming financial year as a result of the reduction of Rs. 58,000, I would point out that it will ultimately be necessary to provide for the full scale of expenditure involved in the various schemes which have been sanctioned. The general result so far as the Provincial allotment is concerned is that we shall be next year in approximately the same position as we were during the current year. Certain new items of expenditure have been included in the new Budget. These are noticed in the financial statement and do not require explanation.

6. Now for the Imperial assignments all the recurring grants made by the Government of India up to date have been provided in the new budget. I dealt at some length with the distribution of these grants in March last and it is unnecessary for me to do more on the present occasion than say that definite schemes have been drawn up for the utilization of these grants and have already been put into operation. I must here repeat what I have already stated on more than one occasion, namely, that it is not possible to arrange for the full utilization of a recurring grant of this nature in a single operation or in a single year. All large schemes are of necessity progressive and in some cases the grants will not be fully taken up for some years. In the meantime the savings effected in any year until the last stage of development is reached, will be available either for capital expenditure under appropriate heads or, as I have just explained in connexion with the reduction of the Provincial allotment by Rs. 58,000, for the purpose of adjusting unforeseen contingencies that may have to be faced owing to retrenchments, etc.

7. Since the submission of the last budget to Council we have received an additional Imperial recurring grant of Rs. 1,50,000 a year for general educational purposes.

This grant has been distributed as follows :—

	Rs.
(1) European education	15,000
(2) Grants-in-aid to colleges	35,000
(3) Muhammadan education	84,000
(4) Sanskrit education	10,000
(5) Improvement of the office establishment of the Divisional Inspector of Schools ...	6,000
Total ...	1,50,000

8. The position with regard to the Imperial grant for non-recurring expenditure on education requires some explanation. As will be seen from a reference to the table provided at page 19 of the draft financial statement a total sum of Rs. 48,98,000 was provided in the current year's budget under Imperial grants for non-recurring expenditure. Of this sum it was calculated that an amount of Rs. 17,10,000 would be spent during 1914-15. After this estimate was arrived at additional expenditure amounting to about six lakhs was subsequently sanctioned and incurred. The unexpended balance of the non-recurring Imperial grants stands to-day therefore at Rs. 25,88,000. In ordinary circumstances the whole of the unexpended balance would have been regranted, but during the year 1915-16 it has been found practicable to reallot Rs. 8,00,000 only. This sum, it will be noticed, has been bracketed against three items in the table on page 18 of the draft financial statement, but it will be open to the department to utilise this provision towards meeting expenditure under any of the heads of capital expenditure for which allotments were originally made by the Government of India. The amount available falls far short of requirements. The original assignments have all been earmarked for specific purposes, and the problem for the coming year will be how to utilise the sum of Rs. 8,00,000 to the best possible advantage. There are one or two large schemes which the department is pledged to see through, and these will receive first attention. The balance of the funds then available

will be devoted to financing projects already in progress and such minor but urgent projects as require to be taken up without delay. A considerable number of schemes which have matured during the year and for which funds have been provisionally earmarked will have to be postponed for the present. This is disappointing but the circumstances are exceptional and we need not assume that the schemes will have to be abandoned.

9. There are likely to be savings during the next year or so on the recurring Imperial assignments and these will, as far as practicable, be utilised to supplement the funds available for capital expenditure."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 9.

The Hon'ble SURGEON-GENERAL HARRIS introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

XX—Medical.

EXPENDITURE—

24—Medical.

RECEIPTS.

He said :—

"Sir, the estimated receipts of the Medical Department for the current year were originally passed for Rs. 3,97,000, but taking into consideration the actuals of the past 9 months and in view of the transfer of the credit of the sale proceeds of quinine 'treatments' sold through the agency of the Civil Surgeons from the Medical Budget to the Budgets of the Jail and Cinchona Departments, these receipts were fixed in the revised estimate at Rs 3,75,000. Again, allowing for the growing receipts from the Medical College and from the two Government medical schools under the head of School Fees, and also the fees received from paying patients at the large hospitals, the revised estimates for 1915-16 have been put down at Rs. 3,80,000.

The revised estimate of expenditure for the current year is Rs. 25,54,000 against the budget estimate of Rs. 25,56,228 (excluding sanitation) and shows a small decrease of Rs. 2,228. The decrease is nominal and is due chiefly to the transfer of one lakh to the Public Works Department to meet a portion of the cost of constructing the School of Tropical Medicine and partly to the fact that the allotment of Rs. 50,000 for the purchase of equipment for the school was not utilized and partly to the savings in the salary of district medical officers and the medical officers attached to the Medical College, Calcutta, owing to the deputation of a large number of Indian Medical Service officers to military duty. On the other hand, increased charges were incurred under Hospitals and Dispensaries specially under Supplies and Services, and special grants were also made—Rs. 38,000 to the Albert Victor Hospital and Rs. 12,000 to the Eden Sanitarium, Darjeeling,—and there were expenses in connection with the introduction of the scheme for the association of independent medical practitioners with Government hospitals. Effect was given to this scheme in the Mayo and Sambhu Nath Pundit Hospitals in the months of June and July last respectively. It involves a recurring expenditure of Rs. 9,470 per annum on account of the paid staff employed to assist the honorary staff and other charges, besides an initial expenditure of Rs. 9,400 for laboratory equipment, instruments, etc.

The estimate for next year amounts to Rs. 23,56,000. It includes Rs. 63,000 for the School of Tropical Medicine, viz., Rs. 13,000 which is the unexpended balance of the Imperial grant and Rs. 50,000 for equipment. When the foundation stone was laid by His Excellency Lord Carmichael last

year it was hoped that the school would be opened during the current year, but for reasons which I need not enter into now, I fear that our hopes cannot be realized. Owing to this doubt no provision has at present been made for the staff, etc., of this school. I may say that it has been decided that a Hospital for Tropical Diseases shall be constructed as an adjunct to the school, but as the hospital will be built and maintained out of funds raised by subscriptions, it has not been thought necessary to make any provision for it in this budget.

The unexpended balance amounting to Rs. 20,000 out of the grant of one lakh sanctioned by the Imperial Government for medical relief has been provided for expenditure next year.

This budget also includes the provision for two grants-in-aid each of Rs. 10,000 in order to meet the initial charges of two newly-constituted bodies, (*a*) the State Medical Faculty and (*b*) the Council of Medical Registration.

The appointment of an Indian Medical Service Personal Assistant to Surgeon-General having now been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, the provision for the pay and allowances of this officer has been repeated, but it is not expected that an Indian Medical Service officer will be available until after termination of the war. Full provision has also been made for the expenditure in connection with the scheme for the association of private medical practitioners with the Mayo and Sambhu Nath Pundit Hospitals.

A sum of Rs. 1,000 has again been provided for typewriting machines for a few more Civil Surgeons' offices. Provision has been made for the purchase of an Epidiascope for the Medical College at a cost of Rs. 1,500. The provision on account of Municipal taxes on medical buildings has been reduced in view of the fact that the owner's share will now be paid by the Public Works Department and met from that budget. Increased grants have been provided on account of supplies and services of the Medical College Hospital and a sum of Rs. 200 on account of the revision of the establishment of that institution.

To meet the growing needs of the times it has been considered advisable to appoint three anaesthetists to the Medical College Hospital, and provision for their pay at Rs. 100 each per mensem has been made.

The budget also includes provision of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,052 to meet the cost of the revision of the establishments of the Presidency General Hospital and Medical College respectively, which has already been sanctioned. Finally, provision has also been made (*a*) for the training of nurses, and (*b*) for expenditure in connection with the Serological Laboratory at the Medical College. A sum of Rs. 15,000 has been provided in the former case, and Rs. 35,000 in the case of the Serological Laboratory."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 10.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

X—Registration.

EXPENDITURE—

12—Registration.

He said :—

"Sir, I have the honour to introduce the estimates of Revenue and Expenditure relating to the Registration Department.

The receipts for next year are estimated at Rs. 19,00,000 against the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 20,50,000 in the current year. Owing to the slackness in the jute trade due to war conditions, the income of the department has declined since August last, and the revised estimate for the current year has been placed at Rs. 18,00,000. The estimate for next year allows for the normal increase of one lakh over this reduced figure. This is one of the earning departments of Government which has been affected by the war. This is shown in paragraph 20, page 12 of the Financial Statement.

On the expenditure side we have provided for Rs. 11,23,000. The sanctioned provision for the present year was Rs. 11,99,000. The revised estimate is Rs. 11,51,000. This decrease is due to several causes. The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and his establishment have been transferred from this department on the appointment of a separate whole-time Registrar. Formerly, the work was done by the Registrar of Assurances, Calcutta, who was an officer of the department. There was also a provision for improving the salaries of District Sub-Registrars and of the establishment of district headquarters offices, which had to be kept back owing to the outbreak of war. We have had to hold up schemes for the improvement of the cadre of Sub-Registrars and of District Sub-Registrars and for the appointment of an additional fourth Inspector of Registration Offices, which have been generally approved, but which cannot be put in the next year's budget. Proposals for the much-needed revision of establishments in district and mufassal offices have been worked out, but for obvious reasons effect cannot be given to them so long as the present conditions last. In this respect, the Registration Department has been badly hit, as several very useful schemes which have been matured with considerable trouble and care and which would have benefited the department very materially, have had to be postponed until normal conditions return.

It will be seen that whereas the receipts are estimated at 19 lakhs the expenditure is about 11¼ lakhs which is 59 per cent. of the receipts. This department, therefore, gives the State a considerable surplus."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 10A.

The Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN introduced the following head :—

EXPENDITURE—

24—Sanitation.

He said :—

"Sir, I beg leave to introduce the consideration of the figures in the revised Financial Statement for 1915-16 which relate to the Sanitation Department.

These figures will be found on pages 56 and 57. Under the head 'Sanitation and Vaccination' the estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 3,07,000, against Rs. 3,93,000, the sanctioned estimate for the current year, and Rs. 4,19,000, the revised estimate.

The decrease is chiefly under salaries and contingencies :

(*a*) *Salaries.*—A lump deduction of Rs. 20,000 has been made as some of the Deputy Sanitary Commissioners have returned to military duty and no officers have yet been taken in their places.

(*b*) *Contingencies* (*Rs. 50,000*).—In 1912 the Governing Body of the Indian Research Fund Association made a grant of Rs. 50,000 for jungle clearing in Bengal as a measure against malaria. Since then this amount has

been provided in the Budget every year, but not spent. The Provincia Malaria Committee found it impossible to formulate a definite scheme o jungle-cutting on practical lines and suggested that the grant might be mor profitably used on subsoil drainage. Two schemes for subsoil drainage were drawn up and the matter was referred to the Government of India, wh declined to sanction the diversion of the grant to another purpose and aske for the return of the money. The sum of Rs. 50,000 was accordingly replace at the disposal of the Indian Research Fund Association, and no such provi sion has been made in the next year.

The lump grants for recurring and non-recurring expenditure are shown on page 57. The total for the current year, after making a lump deduction of ten lakhs, amounts to Rs. 18,32,772. The whole of this will not be utilised before the 31st March. The principa items which have already been sanctioned or will probably be sanctioned during the current year from these grants are shown in paragraph 63 on page 23 of the statement. As explained in paragraph 10 on page 5 the only provision that has been made for expenditure on sanitation in 1915-16 is a sum of Rs. 9,50,000 for recurring expenditure.

Rs.	
18,82,772	for non-recurring.
9,50,000	for recurring.
28,32,772	
10,00,000	lump deduction
18,32,772	

If further information is desired on any point I shall be very happy to supply it."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 11.

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

XXIII—Stationery and Printing.

EXPENDITURE—

30—Stationery and Printing.

He said :—

"Sir, I have not much to say in connection with this head. Th revised estimate of receipts shows an increase of Rs. 36,000 which is du to the sale of waste-paper and unserviceable materials from the Dacca Ja Press which has been abolished. The serviceable materials have been sol to the Government of Bihar and Orissa for opening a Jail Press of their ow at Gaya which has been adjusted by *minus* entry on the expenditure side The receipt budget for next year is Rs. 1,32,000 against Rs. 1,37,862—th actuals of 1913-14—and calls for no particular remarks. On the expenditur side the revised estimate shows a decrease of Rs. 88,000 which has bee fully explained in paragraph 57 of the Amended Draft Financial Statemer and I have nothing further to add. The budget for next year amounts t Rs. 13,87,000 and provision has been made according to actual requirement No provision has been made for the Dacca Jail Press while the cost of th Forms Department has now been amalgamated with the Presidency Ja Press.

As explained before in the Council, the Secretariat Press was hopelessl congested, but some accommodation in the Military Accounts Departmer Buildings in Koilaghat Street having been available, a portion of the Pres has been removed there and we have been able to give more space to th confidential section, the establishment of which will now be revised. A lum provision of Rs. 6,000 has been made for this purpose."

Mr. Cowley.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 12.

The Hon'ble MR. COWLEY introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

XVIII—Ports and Pilotage.

EXPENDITURE—

21—Ports and Pilotage.

REVENUE—

XXIX—Irrigation—Major Works.

EXPENDITURE—

12—Irrigation—Major Works—Working Expenses.

REVENUE—

XXX—Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation.

EXPENDITURE—

13—Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation.

He said :—

"Sir, the only noticeable matter in connection with the figures under Ports and Pilotage is the decrease during the current year on both the receipt and expenditure sides of the estimates for pilotage charges. This is due to a falling-off in the number of vessels entering and leaving the Calcutta Port in consequence of the partial suspension of trade caused by the war.

As regards the Budget for the next year, it allows for normal expenditure, and the receipts have been framed in view of the adverse trade conditions.

Coming now to the heads of the budget entitled XXIX— Receipts—Irrigation—Major Works and 12—Expenditure—Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation, XXX—Receipts and 13—Expenditure, the Major Works with which we have to deal in this Presidency, as at present constituted, are the Midnapore and Hijili Tidal Canals. The latter is for navigation only, while the former provides for both irrigation and navigation. There has been a reduction in the navigation receipts from these canals, specially in the latter, due partly to the closure of the canal for silt-clearance and partly to the effects of the severe floods of the year 1913. The navigation receipts from these canals have also generally suffered from railway competition.

As the work of clearing silt out of the locked reaches taken up last year was nearly completed in that year, there has been no increase in the expenditure of the year 1914-15 and none is anticipated during 1915-16. As considerable expenditure is incurred every year on clearance of silt from portions of these canals, it would be more economical to carry out such work by a dredger instead of by hand-labour as at present. It is hoped that it will be possible to purchase a suitable dredger for this purpose when the war is over.

I now turn to the heading 'Minor Works and Navigation,' which is more important in its effect upon Provincial Revenues. The chief sources of revenue under this head are the tolls received from navigation on the Calcutta Canals, the Sundarbans route and the Madaripur Bhil route, which together form the navigable route for boats and inland steamers between Calcutta and Eastern Bengal. The receipts from these sources are estimated at Rs. 4,07,000 out of the total estimated receipts of Rs. 5,24,000 against the

budget estimate of Rs. 6,10,000. The decrease is chiefly in receipts from the Madaripur Bhil Route and to a certain extent from the Calcutta and Eastern Canals. The falling-off of receipts from the Bhil Route is due to the temporary silting-up of the Manikdah entrance channel and consequent loss of traffic. A falling-off of Rs. 10,000 is also expected in the irrigation receipts from the Eden Canal on account of remission of water-rates expected to that extent. During the coming year it is estimated that there will be an increase of Rs. 20,000 from navigation tolls on the Magra Hat Drainage Channels, and as it is not likely, owing to the construction of a new supply sluice, that any remission of water-rates will have to be granted on the Eden Canal. The total estimate for receipts for 1915-16 shows an improvement of Rs. 46,000, as compared with the receipts for the current year.

There has been a considerable increase in the revised estimate of expenditure under 'Minor Works and Navigation' for the current year, as compared with the budget. This is due to a special provision of Rs. 6,00,000 for purchasing dredging plant for the maintenance and improvement of the inland waterways of the Presidency.

The Government of India have sanctioned the purchase of the suction dredger *Alexandra* at a cost of Rs. 5,25,000 and the balance of the grant will be utilized in purchasing coaling plant for the two dredgers *Foyers* and *Alexandra*. A sum of Rs. 19,250 has been placed at the disposal of the district of Bakarganj as Government contribution for the re-excavation of the Damoda Channel by the District Board. Provision has also been made for flood damage repairs, and it is expected that all works connected therewith, including the raising of the Damodar left embankment, where necessary, will be completed during the coming year.

The clearing of the bed of the Saraswati river in connection with the Rajapur drainage works, for which Rs. 60,000 was provided for expenditure during the current year, has not as yet been taken up, as, owing to the present financial contingency, funds for the completion of the work are not at present available. The work in connection with dredging the Angeria Creek on the Sundarbans route is nearing completion, while that for dredging the Puthimari Channel on the existing steamer route between Calcutta and Barisal has been postponed pending a final decision on the Grand Trunk Canal project of which it will form a part. Fair progress has been made on the construction of the second supply sluice and connected works, Eden Canal, for which Rs. 20,000 has been provided in the coming year. The Ganges from Digha to Rajmahal being now in the Province of Bihar and Orissa, a proportionate sum out of the provision of Rs. 35,000 made for the Ganges Training Works will have to be transferred to that Government during 1915-16. This arrangement will continue during the currency of the existing financial settlement. Provision has been made as usual for carrying out training works during 1915-16 in the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers to facilitate navigation and to improve the water-supply of the town of Dacca. The protective revetments on the river-side slope of the Hooghly left embankment at Diamond Harbour were very badly damaged by the storm of 24th July 1913; and, as advised by the Inspector-General of Irrigation, further protective works in the form of a concrete mattress are being carried out. It is expected that the work, as taken up, will be completed by 31st March 1916."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 13.

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

XXXI—Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers.

EXPENDITURE—

45—Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers.

Mr. Cumming; Mr. Green.

He said :—

"Sir, on the receipt side, the income is Rs. 1,57,000, and it calls for no remark.

On the expenditure side, the items are principally divided between District Boards, Municipalities and the Calcutta Improvement Trust. The details will be found at page 23 of the Amended Draft Financial Statement, and I need not go into further details. There is, however, one head to which I might draw attention and that is a recurring grant of one lakh which has been given for five years to Divisional Commissioners and another grant of Rs. 52,000 which has been given for two years to District Magistrates. I need hardly say that these grants are much appreciated and are wisely made.

No other items call for any remark."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 14.

The Hon'ble Mr. GREEN introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

XXXI—Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.

EXPENDITURE—

45—Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.

He said :—

"Sir, I have to introduce for the consideration of the Council the Budget for *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department*

There is an increase of Rs. 85,000 in the receipt side of the revised budget for the current year which is principally due to larger realization of rent on Government buildings and larger receipts on account of the sale proceeds of old Government buildings.

For next year (1915-16) receipts have been estimated at Rs. 1,25,000, *i.e.*, Rs. 45,000 less than the anticipated receipts for the current year. This decrease is due to the estimated receipts on account of sale of Government buildings next year being less than those in the present year.

On the expenditure side, under original works, in the Revised Estimate, there is a decrease of Rs. 3,73,000 which is principally due to the expectation that the full grant for several works in connection with buildings and communications, chiefly those for road improvement in the Duars, will not be fully utilized during the year.

Under Repairs the increase of Rs. 1,12,000 in the Revised Estimate is mainly due to extra grants, given this year, for advance collection of metal for next year's road maintenance, additional grants given to supplement insufficient budget grants for certain roads in the Central Circle, chiefly for the Grand Trunk Road, and the provision of extra grants for special repairs to the Tista Valley Road in the Darjeeling district.

The increase of Rs. 93,000 in establishment in the revised estimate is partly due to additional grants given to meet the cost of establishment under the Sanitary Engineer and of additional establishment required during the end of the year in connection with the Dacca University buildings, and partly owing to insufficient provision having been made in the current year's budget for establishment in general.

Mr. Green.

The increase of Rs. 19,000 in Tools and Plant is due to the purchase of elephants, steam-rollers, etc., in connection with the improvement of the Duars roads.

The anticipated expenditure of Rs. 90,000 under stock represents the increase in the value of stock over last year's closing balance. This is mainly due to the manufacture of bricks for the Dacca University buildings and buildings in other parts of the Province.

The grant for expenditure during the coming year has been fixed at Rs. 64,88,000 against Rs. 89,00,000, the revised estimate for the current year. From this we have first to meet our recurrent expenditure on Establishment, Tools and Plant, and Repairs, and to make adequate provision for carrying on original works in progress.

For Establishment we have provided Rs. 13,50,000 against Rs. 12,40,000, the revised estimate for 1914-15. The increase is principally due to the fact that, it is estimated the Imperial contribution of 21½ per cent. on works to be executed for the Government of India, during the coming year, will be less by Rs. 63,000 than in the current year. Rupees 35,000 has also been provided to meet the cost of establishment required in connection with the Dacca University buildings for the full year. The balance of the increase has been set aside to meet demands for temporary establishment which may arise during the year.

For Tools and Plant only Rs. 50,000 is provided against Rs. 89,000, the revised estimate for the current year, as owing to the reduction in the probable expenditure on original works, it is estimated that the expenditure on Tools and Plant will also be much less.

The amount provided for repairs is Rs. 22,00,000 against Rs. 22,95,000, the revised estimate for the current year. The grant of Rs. 22,00,000 has been fixed at the lowest sum possible in order to provide adequately for carrying on, during the coming year, works which are now in progress.

A provision of Rs. 24,63,900 has been made to complete the works which will be in progress on 31st March 1915, and on which expenditure has been incurred during the current year.

This leaves a sum of only Rs. 1,24,100 available for works not yet commenced. Of this a sum of Rs. 3,00,000 has been set aside for Minor Works, each costing Rs. 5,000 and less, and in the case of the Education Department Rs. 10,000 and less, and Rs. 1,24,100 as a reserve under communications, to meet among other things certain liabilities incurred on works on which no expenditure has been incurred during the current year.

This leaves nothing for new Major Works.

The Minor Works grant of Rs. 3,00,000 includes Rs. 2,54,000 to be placed at the disposal of Commissioners of Divisions and Heads of Departments thus :—

	Rs.
Education Department	56,000
Medical ,, ...	38,000
Registration ,, ...	12,000
Police ,, (Mufassal)	38,000
Police ,, (Calcutta)	12,000
Jails ,, ...	30,000
Excise ,, ...	8,000
Commissioners of Divisions	60,000

and Rs. 46,000 for the following purposes :—

Courts of Law	8,000
Residences of Local Government	20,000
P. W. Reserve	18,000."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 15.

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL introduced the following heads :—

REVENUE—

XII—Interest.

EXPENDITURE—

1—Refunds and Drawbacks.

REVENUE—

XXII—Receipts in aid of Superannuation.

EXPENDITURE—

29—Superannuation.

REVENUE—

XXV—Miscellaneous.

EXPENDITURE—

32—Miscellaneous.

He said :—

"Sir, I have now come to the last batch of Budget heads.

As explained in Council in past years the Interest budget represents for the most part the loan transactions of the Local Government. We borrow money from the Imperial Government at 3½ per cent. calculated on the mean outstanding balance and re-lend it under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists Loans Act to Co-operative Societies, on drainage and embankment advances, to land-holders, etc. and to local bodies, such as Municipalities and District Boards (excluding Presidency Corporations). The receipts comprise the interest which we receive. The increase under the head is due to the provision for larger advances to Municipalities for works of sanitary improvements. The estimates for 1915-16 and the revised estimates are shown in paragraph 21 of the Amended Draft Financial Statement.

Refunds and Drawbacks occur in the different departments. We budget on the basis of the average actuals of the past three years excluding special payments. The details are shown in page 39 of the Financial Statement.

In the Superannuation budget the receipts represent the contributions of officers lent to foreign service or employed for the management of private estates and deductions for Pilotage Pension Funds. The charges are pensions and gratuities actually disbursed. The charges under this head tend to rise year after year owing to increase in the number of claims to pensions. A provision of two lakhs has been made to meet charges for the commutation of pensions against Rs. 1,50,000 provided in the revised estimates for the current year.

The Miscellaneous budget comprises several small items. The detailed figures under receipts are shown in pages 35-36 of the Financial Statement. The revised estimate of receipts is Rs. 6,89,000 against Rs. 5,92,000, the budget estimate, or an increase of Rs. 97,000. The increase is chiefly under the head 'Unclaimed Deposits,' the estimate for which has been raised from Rs. 4,80,000 to Rs. 5,55,000. The rest of the increase is under 'Fees' for Government audits on account of realisation of arrears in Miscellaneous Fees, Recoveries of Law Charges and other small items. The budget for next year is Rs. 6,90,000, which includes Rs. 5,80,000 for unclaimed deposits based

on the average of three years ending 1913-14. The other items are based on past actuals and do not call for any remarks.

On the expenditure side the detailed figures are shown in pages 61-62 of the Financial Statement. The revised estimate shows a nominal saving of Rs. 6,33,000 which is mainly due to the adjustment under appropriate heads of charges for grain compensation allowance, for which 4 lakhs was provided in the budget, and of grants sanctioned by His Excellency from his allotment of one lakh for petty grants; also to the reappropriation of the reserve provision of 1½ lakhs in order to meet charges under other heads; and finally to savings in the provision of Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief in flooded districts. Against these transfers and adjustments additional charges were incurred on the following accounts: first, donations for charitable purposes under which special grants were given to the Calcutta Orphanage for extension, to the District Charitable Society for the construction of a female vagrant ward within the compound of the Government Alms House and to the Salvation Army; secondly, there were additional charges for the Port Development Committee and the District Administration Committee; thirdly, compensation was paid to the Assistants of the Eastern Bengal and Assam Secretariat for resumption of lands and houses taken up by Government at Dacca.

The budget for next year is Rs. 10,16,000. This includes Rs. 1,70,000, the same as the budget for the current year, for donations for charitable purposes, a lump provision of Rs. 20,000 for any unforeseen special Commissions of Inquiry, increased provision of Rs. 10,000 for guarantee for new telegraph lines urgently wanted for the Police Department, the usual allotment of one lakh for petty grants by His Excellency, 1½ lakhs as general reserve which we usually keep to meet unforeseen demands, as it is impossible to work without such a reserve, past experience having shown that demands will arise which we cannot now foretell, half a lakh for gratuitous relief and 4 lakhs for the grant of grain compensation allowance to the menials of all the departments. The question of raising the pay of menials both in Calcutta and in the mufassal is still under consideration, and it is hoped that the scheme will be submitted to the Government of India before long."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said:—

"Gentlemen, before we adjourn I think that it is necessary to remind Hon'ble Members that resolutions on the Financial Statement must reach the Secretary to the Council not later than 11 A.M. on Monday, the 8th March. This has already been intimated to Hon'ble Members by the Secretary in a circular dated the 11th February. I desire also to remind Hon'ble Members that, last year, in response to a representation made to him, His Excellency gave Hon'ble Members an assurance that, so far as was possible, copies of the speeches introducing the various 'Heads' of the Amended Draft Financial Statement would be furnished to Hon'ble Members on the date of delivery. Out of the 14 speeches made to-day, 10 have already been printed up and are now obtainable from the Secretary, to whom application for the same shall be made."

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to Saturday, the 13th March, 1915, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal and
Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA;
The 11th March, 1915.

B. G. Press—13-4-1915—[illegible]—B.

ict of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled nder the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, nd the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Saturday, the 13th March, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, *presiding*.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble SURGEON-GENERAL G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. B. B. NEWBOULD.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., AMIR-UL-OMRAH.

The Hon'ble SIR SATYENDRA PRASANNA SINHA, KT.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

Nawab Saiyid H. H. Chaudhuri: Mr. Cumming: Mr. Kerr.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR:—

Transfer of head quarters station of Noakhali district.

*1. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have at present under consideration the proposal to transfer to another site the head-quarters station of the Noakhali district owing to the continuous erosion by the river of Noakhali town?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied:—

"Government are keeping in view the possibility that, owing to the effects of the erosion by the river Meghna, it may be necessary to abandon the existing town of Noakhali. The effects of the erosion are being carefully observed and Government receive periodical reports. As a further measure of precaution, Government are obtaining information regarding possible sites for a new headquarters, in case it should be necessary to vacate Noakhali, but no definite proposal is under consideration, and Government have an open mind on the question."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR:—

Scarcity of grains in districts.

*2. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that scarcity of food-grains prevails in some of the districts of the Presidency, notably in the districts of Dacca and Bakarganj?

(*b*) If so, to what is this scarcity due and what steps are the Government taking to relieve the consequent distress?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied:—

"Government are not aware that scarcity of food-grains prevails in any of the districts in this Presidency. The want of rain in September and October seriously affected the winter rice crop in several districts, and the outturn for the province as a whole is estimated at 72 *per cent.* of the normal. The price of common rice in most districts (including Dacca and Bakarganj), is, however, less than it was at this period last year. The prices of wheat, *dal*, and the cheaper food grains are somewhat higher than last year, but have nowhere reached a pitch indicating any scarcity. The situation is being carefully watched, but there are at present no signs of distress calling for intervention on the part of Government."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR:—

Uniformity the rules and of the Educ Department Eastern and W ern Bengal.

*3. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the rules and orders governing the Education Department are identical in both Eastern and Western Bengal?

(*b*) If not, in what do they principally differ?

Mr. Samman; Maharaja of Nashipur.

(*c*) If the answer to clause (*a*) of the question be in the negative, will the Government be pleased to state whether the existing differences are to remain, or whether (and if so, when) the said rules and orders are to be made uniform throughout the Presidency?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied:—

(*a*) "The rules are identical in most matters of importance, but differ in many points of detail.

(*b*) The chief sets of rules which contain points of difference in the two parts of the Province are those governing curricula, the distribution of scholarships and grants in aid, the powers of the Director of Public Instruction and his subordinate officers and the prescription of text-books.

(*c*) It has been decided to co-ordinate the rules relating to most, but not all, of these matters, and the work of co-ordination is well in hand, though it cannot be said exactly when the final assimilation of the rules will be completed."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur:—

using the Public Works cess for sanitary purposes.

*1. Are the Government earmarking any proportion of the grant of the Public Works cess to the District Boards for sanitary purposes during the next year?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied:—

"The answer is in the negative."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur:—

Amount spent from Public Works cess.

1.—Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing the amount spent by each District Board for sanitation out of the assignment from Public Works cess?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table:—

"District Boards were not asked to keep any separate account of expenditure out of the grants made to them on the surrender of the Public Works Cess. The total amount expended by each District Board in 1913-14 on account of sanitation, exclusive of vaccination charges, is shown in the statement appended. Figures for the current year are not yet available."

Mr. Samman.

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. I (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur at the Council meeting of the 13th March, 1915.

Serial No.	Name of District Board	Sanitation charges including drainage works and water supply (1913-14)
	Burdwan Division.	Rs.
1	Burdwan	10,077
2	Birbhum	30,638
3	Bankura	6,018
4	Midnapore	80,645
5	Hooghly	12,404
6	Howrah	5,469
	Total ...	1,44,651
	Presidency Division	
7	24-Parganas	8,444
8	Nadia	12,811
9	Murshidabad	7,355
10	Jessore	15,412
11	Khulna	28,133
	Total ...	72,125
	Dacca Division.	
12	Dacca	34,111
13	Mymensingh	30,488
14	Faridpur	32,862
15	Bakarganj	23,687
	Total ...	1,21,151
	Chittagong Division.	
16	Chittagong	14,725
17	Tippera	39,265
18	Noakhali	9,440
	Total ...	63,430
	Rajshahi Division.	
19	Rajshahi	12,447
20	Dinajpur	6,860
21	Jalpaiguri	5,532
22	Rangpur	20,710
23	Bogra	22,562
24	Pabna	2,687
25	Malda	5,548
	Total ...	76,746

Maharaja of Nashipur : Mr. Samman.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur :—

diture n purposes and urban

II.—Will the Government be pleased to furnish a detailed statement the amount spent on sanitary purposes both in rural and urban areas duri the current financial year ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on th table :—

" Figures for the current financial year are not yet available. The will be compiled as soon as possible after the year has closed."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur :—

Iare and hools.

III.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a state ment showing the names of the teachers of the Hare and Hindu Schools an also the monthly salaries they draw ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the annual income of th aforesaid two institutions and the expenditure incurred for their main tenance ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on th table :—

" (*a*) Two statements are laid on the table.

(*b*) The income and expenditure of these schools since 1911-12 hav been as follows :—

Hare School

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1911-12	... 25,453	... 24,117
1912-13	... 27,612	... 22,991
1913-14	... 29,101	... 23,090

Hindu School.

1911-12	... 28,830	... 25,961
1912-13	... 30,282	.. 24,635
1913-14	... 28,961	. 23,904

The figures for expenditure are exclusive of pensionary charges and th cost incurred on the maintenance and repair of the school buildings."

Mr. Samman.

nent referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. 111 nstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur at the uncil meeting of the 13th March, 1915.

EMENT SHOWING THE NAMES OF THE TEACHERS OF THE HINDU SCHOOL AND ALSO THE MONTHLY SALARIES THEY DRAW.

NAME OF OFFICER	Designation	Pay	Class or service	REMARKS
		Rs		
Rai Rasamay Mitra Bahadur	Head Master	100	Class IV P. E. S.	
Babu Tarini Prasad Mukherji	Assistant Head Master	200	II S. E. S.	
Bidhu Bhusan Sen	Assistant Master	100	V	On deputation to the Krishnagar College Babu Jaradhan Nath Ray [illegible] in class VIII
" Brahma Kishore Mukherji ...	Ditto	100	V	
" Jatindra Nath Mukherji I ..	Ditto	75	VI	
Pandit Ramanuj Vidyaratna	Head Pandit ..	75	VI	
Babu Upendra Lal Bakshi ..	Assistant Master	75	VI	
Khirod Chandra Chatterji ...	Ditto	60	VII	
Amrita Lal Gupta	Ditto	50	VIII	
Sajani Kanta Banerji ...	Ditto (Drawing Master)	50	VIII	
" Panchu Gopal Ghosh ..	Assistant Master	50	VIII	
" Nilmani Ganguli	Ditto	60	Outside the grades	
" Jatindra Nath Mukherji II ...	Ditto	50	Ditto	
" Jitendra Nath Mukherji ...	Ditto	50	Ditto	
Pandit Sarat Chandra Sastri	Ditto (Pandit)	39	Class I L. S. E. S.	
Babu Sashi Bhusan Mukherji ...	Assistant Master	35	I	
Pandit Manmatha Nath Bhattacharji	Ditto (Pandit).	30	III	
Babu Ram Gopal Tarabdar ..	Assistant Master	30	III	
" Nilmani Banerji	Ditto	25	IV	
" Ram Das Banerji ..	Ditto	20	V	
" Nagendra Nath Ghosh ...	Assistant Master (Drill Master)	...	....	Draws salary at Rs. 75 a month for teaching drill in the Hindu, Hare and Sanskrit Collegiate Schools
Kali Mohan Dutta ...	Assistant Master (Gymnastic Master)	...	.....	Draws salary at Rs. 60 a month in class VII of the S. E. S. for teaching gymnastics in the Presidency College and the Hindu and Hare Schools

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NAMES OF THE TEACHERS OF THE HARE SCHOOL AND THE MONTHLY SALARIES THEY DRAW.

Serial No.	NAME OF OFFICER.	Designation.	Pay.	Class of service.	REMARKS.
			Rs		
1	Rai Sahib Isan Chandra Ghosh ...	Head Master ...	500	Class III P. E. S.	
2	Babu Narayan Chandra Mukerji ...	Assistant Head Master	250	I S. E. S.	On leave. Babu Chandra Gupta o
3	„ Anil Chandra Gupta ...	Assistant Master	150	III	Officiating Assist Master of th School Babu Lal Ray C officiating
4	„ Prasanna Kumar Sarkar ...	Ditto ...	100	V	
5	„ Niharan Chandra Das Gupta ...	Ditto ...	100	V	
6	„ Kiran Sasi Dutta ...	Ditto ...	75	„ VI „	
7	„ Nikunja Behari De ...	Ditto ...	60	VII	
8	„ Sarat Nath Ganguli ...	Ditto ...	50	VIII	
9	„ Ramrup Vidyasagar ...	Head Pandit ...	50	VIII	
10	Pramatha Nath Ghosh ...	Assistant Master	50	„ VIII	
11	„ Bipin Bihari Routh ...	Ditto ...	45	Outside the grades	
12	„ Sivanandan Tirathy ...	Pandit ...	43	Cla I. T.	
13	„ Ashutosh Ghosh ...	Assistant Master	35	„ II	
14	„ Jyotish Chandra Roy Chaudhury	Ditto ...	34	II	
15	„ Satish Chandra Dutta ...	Ditto ...	32	II	On leave Pandit Nath Kavya Bh tha officiating
16	„ Kunja Behari Chatterji ...	Ditto ...	27	III	
17	„ Manik Chandra Kavyatirtha ...	Ditto ... (Pandit)	25	IV	
18	„ Anukul Chandra De ...	Assistant Master	24	„ IV „	
19	Maulvi Khairul Anam ...	Ditto (Persian teacher).	25	Outside the grades.	
20	Vacant	Assistant Master	...	.....	In place of Babu Kunta Ukil, Babu Jyotish Bhattacharji on Rs 25-1-30 III of the L. S
21	Vacant	Ditto (Drawing Master).	...	.....	In place of Jogendra Nat deceased.
22	Babu Nagendra Nath Ghosh ...	Assistant Master (Drill Master).	...	.....	Draws salary at month for teac in the Hindu, Sanskrit Collegia
23	„ Kali Mohan Dutta ...	Assistant Master (Gymnastic Master).	...	.....	Draws salary at month in class S. E. S. for gymnastics in t deney College Hindu and Hare

Mr. Beatson Bell.

THE REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL presented the Revised Financial Statement for Bengal for 1915-16.

He said :—

"My Lord, I beg to lay on the table the Revised Financial Statement for the year 1915-16. I have very little to say on the subject; the memorandum has already been circulated to Hon'ble Members, and they are all familiar with its contents. As regards the receipts for the current year, there is a slight alteration in the estimate for stamps, and the provincial share will now amount to Rs. 101 lakhs. The other item of interest is one with which all are familiar, namely, the fact that His Excellency the Viceroy at the Convocation the other day made a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs for hostels in Calcutta. This appears as an item of receipt in the current year, and an item of expenditure in the year to come.

There are no other items to which I need draw attention."

REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT, BENGAL, 1915-16.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

FINANCE.

Calcutta, the 12th March 1915.

MEMORANDUM.

In accordance with Rule 11 (1) and (2) of the Bengal Legislative (Financial Statement Rules, 1912, published with Notification No. 4482 F., dated the 10th December 1912, the following memorandum is circulated indicating the alterations in the figures which have been made since the circulation of the Amended Draft Financial Statement, Bengal, for 1915-16, on the 4th instant.

2. The following changes have been made under the orders of the Government of India :—

REVISED ESTIMATE, 1914-15.

RECEIPTS.

IV—Stamps.—The revised estimate has been raised by two lakhs from Rs. 2,00,00,000 to Rs. 2,02,00,000. The Provincial share amounts to Rs. 1,01,00,000.

Mr. Samman.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NAMES OF THE TEACHERS OF THE HARE SCHOOL AND ALSO THE MONTHLY SALARIES THEY DRAW.

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3	,, Anil Chandra Gupta ...	Assistant Master	150	III	Officiating Assistant Head Master of the same School. Babu Makhan Lal Ray Chaudhury officiating
4	Prasanna Kumar Sarkar ...	Ditto ...	100	V	
5	,, Niharan Chandra Das Gupta ...	Ditto ...	100	V	
6	,, Kunu Susi Dutta ...	Ditto ...	75	VI	
7	,, Nikunja Behari De ...	Ditto ...	60	VII	
8	,, Sarat Nath Gangulı ...	Ditto ...	50	VIII	
9	,, Ramrup Vidyasagar ...	Head Pandit ...	50	,, VIII ,,	
10	Pramatha Nath Ghosh ...	Assistant Master	50	,, VIII	
11	,, Bipin Bihari Gouth ...	Ditto ...	45	Outside the grades.	
12	,, Sivanandan Pandit ...	Pandit ...	43	Class I [illegible]	
13	Ashutosh Ghosh ...	Assistant Master	35	,, II	
14	,, Jyotish Chandra Roy Chaudhury	Ditto ...	34	II	
15	,, Satish Chandra Dutta ...	Ditto ...	32	,, II	On leave. Pandit Manmatha Nath Kavya Byakaranatirtha officiating
16	,, Kunja Behari Chatterji ...	Ditto ...	27	III	
17	,, Manik Chandra Kavyatirtha ...	Ditto ... (Pandit)	25	IV	
18	,, Anukul Chandra De ...	Assistant Master	24	,, IV ,,	
19	Maulvi Khairul Anam ...	Ditto (Persian teacher)	25	Outside the grades.	
20	Vacant	Assistant Master	...	.....	In place of Babu Kumud Kanta Ukil, deceased Babu Jyotish Chandra Bhattacharji officiating on Rs. 25-1-30 in class III of the L. S. E. S.
21	Vacant	Ditto (Drawing Master).	...	.....	In place of Babu Jogendra Nath Dass deceased
22	Babu Nagendra Nath Ghosh ...	Assistant Master (Drill Master).	...	.....	Draws salary at Rs. 75 a month for teaching drill in the Hindu, Hare and Sanskrit Collegiate Schools.
23	,, Kali Mohan Dutta ...	Assistant Master (Gymnastic Master).	...	.....	Draws salary at Rs. 60 a month in class VII of the S. E. S. for teaching gymnastics in the Presidency College and the Hindu and Hare Schools.

Mr. Beatson Bell.

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There are no other items to which I need draw attention."

REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT, BENGAL, 1915-16.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

FINANCE.

Calcutta, the 12th March 1915.

MEMORANDUM.

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RECEIPTS.

IV—Stamps.—The revised estimate has been raised by two lakhs from Rs. 2,00,00,000 to Rs. 2,02,00,000. The Provincial share amounts to Rs. 1,01,00,000.

Mr. Beatson Bell.

Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues.—The Government of India have sanctioned a non-recurring assignment of ten lakhs for a grant to the Calcutta University for constructing hostels. This has raised the estimate of receipts under this major head from Rs. 58,59,000 to Rs. 68,59,000. The estimate of total receipts now stands at Rs. 6,20,06,000.

CHARGES.

22—Education.—Raised by Rs. 1,50,000 with reference to later actuals which include payment of arrear increase of pay to officers of the Education Department recently sanctioned with retrospective effect.

45—Civil Works in charge of Public Works Department.—Raised by Rs. 3 lakhs to provide for the grants sanctioned to the Public Works Department to meet the cost of land acquisition for the David Hare Training College at Ballygunge and the Bethune College, Calcutta.

The estimate of total expenditure has been raised from Rs. 6,52,36,000 to Rs. 6,56,86,000, and the closing balance has been raised from Rs. 2,74,81,000 to Rs. 2,81,31,000.

BUDGET, 1915-16.

CHARGES.

A provision of ten lakhs has been made under *22—Education* for a grant to the Calcutta University for constructing hostels sanctioned by the Government of India as stated above.

The total charges for 1915-16 will now be raised from Rs. 6,48,29,000 to Rs. 6,58,29,000, and the closing balance will be reduced to Rs. 2,41,09,000, thus :—

	Revised Estimate, 1914-15	Budget, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance	3,18,11,000	2,81,31,000
Receipts	6,20,06,000	6,18,07,000
Total ...	9,38,17,000	8,99,38,000
Charges	6,56,86,000	6,58,29,000
Closing balance	2,81,31,000	2,41,09,000

Copies of the revised Financial Statement are circulated herewith.

N. D. BEATSON BELL.

Mr. Beatson Bell.

REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT, BENGAL, 1915-16.

PART I.—General Review.

(1) ACCOUNTS FOR 1913-14.

WHEN the revised estimate for 1913-14 was laid before the Council on the 26th March 1914, the receipts of the year were estimated at Rs. 6,16,70,000 and the charges at Rs. 6,25,70,000, while the anticipated closing balance was Rs. 3,04,30,000. The accounts of the year, which have now been finally closed, show that the actual receipts amounted to Rs. 6,21,41,472 and the charges to Rs. 6,16,60,630, while the closing balance was Rs. 3,18,11,112. The receipts were therefore better by Rs. 1,71,472, this improvement having occurred chiefly under Stamps (Rs. 1,55,416), owing to larger duty on probate and letters of administration and to settlement proceedings; Excise (Rs. 1,88,578), attributed to the prosperous conditions of the year; Assessed Taxes (Rs. 68,958), caused by the favourable trade conditions of 1912-13 which swelled the profits of the coal and jute companies; Registration (Rs. 46,144), due to the favourable economic conditions of the year leading to a more rapid extension in the demand for registration; Ports and Pilotage (Rs. 36,604), chiefly under Pilotage fees, the revised estimate for which was under-estimated; and Miscellaneous (Rs. 90,760), partly contributed by larger lapse of unclaimed deposits than had been anticipated and partly by special recoveries on account of service payments of previous years. The actual charges were less by Rs. 9,09,370, mainly under Education (Rs. 3,97,485) and Medical (Rs. 19,511), chiefly owing to non-utilization of the Imperial grants for education and sanitation, respectively, to the extent anticipated in January; Stationery and Printing (Rs. 53,594), due to smaller consumption of stationery; Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,28,582), for smaller expenditure in gratuitous relief in flooded areas; Civil Works in charge of Public Works Department (Rs. 1,55,615), due to savings in the grants for original works, to the reduction of stock and recovery of amounts advanced to contractors for manufacture of bricks; and lastly under Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department (Rs. 2,55,737), owing to smaller grants to municipalities for expenditure on sanitation.

(2) REVISED ESTIMATE, 1914-15.

2. The revised estimate for 1914-15 as now passed, on the basis of the actuals of the first nine, and in some cases ten, months of the current year, is compared below with the sanctioned estimate for the year :—

	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Better (+) or worse (−).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance ...	3,04,30,000	3,18,11,000	+13,81,000
Revenue receipts ...	5,72,11,000	5,51,47,000	−20,64,000
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues ...	+57,84,000	+68,59,000	+10,75,000
Total receipts ...	6,29,95,000	6,20,06,000	− 9,89,000
Grand Total ...	9,34,25,000	9,38,17,000	+ 3,92,000
Total expenditure ...	7,35,93,000	6,56,86,000	+79,07,000
Closing balance ...	1,98,32,000	2,81,31,000	+82,99,000

Mr. Beatson Bell.

3. The increase under Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues is due to the following additional assignments from Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.
Assignment for provincialization of salaries of Civil Veterinary Department ...	+ 29,000
Assignment for non-realization of small recovery claims of freights, etc., on stores from England in the office of the Agent for Government Consignments ...	+ 6,000
Additional assignment for Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation to serological enquiry	+ 10,000
Assignment for purchase of copies of Indian Household Reference Chart and Indian Household Emergency Chart	+ 2,000
Further non-recurring grant for Dacca University	+ 1,00,000
Smaller assignment for cost of forms for Bihar and Orissa Government (Rs. 2,15,000 against Rs. 2,32,000)	— 17,000
Smaller assignment for cost of forms for Assam Administration (Rs. 94,000 against Rs. 1,29,000)	— 35,000
No recovery from Bihar Government in connection with fishery experiments against Rs. 11,000 originally proposed ...	— 11,000
Transfer from Provincial to Imperial Revenues for net gain for premises No. 9, Hare Street, made over to Provincial Government for management ...	— 9,000
Assignment for grant to the Calcutta University for hostels	+10,00,000
	+10,75,000

4. The decrease of revenue is the net result of decreases under some heads and increase under others. The decreases aggregate Rs. 29,66,000 and are chiefly under the following heads :—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 6,84,000), due to smaller collections owing to the slackness of jute trade and non-realization of the anticipated collections of suspensions of 1913-14.

Stamps—(Rs. 10,50,000), caused by dislocation of business and trade caused by the war.

Excise—(Rs. 3,00,000), attributed to the present crisis which has affected consumption.

Forests—(Rs. 2,90,000), caused by smaller sales of timber owing to difficulty experienced in financing the timber trade.

Registration—(Rs. 2,50,000), due to the decrease in the number of registrations.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 33,000), due to smaller fines in magisterial courts and smaller recoveries of court-fees realized in cash.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 1,91,000), due to dislocation of trade caused by the war.

Education—(Rs. 50,000), the budget was fixed rather high.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 43,000), due to stoppage of jute traffic in the Calcutta and Eastern Canals and to the silting up of the Manikdah Entrance Channel and consequent blockage of traffic in the Madaripur Bhil route and to remission of water rates in the Eden Canal.

The increase, on the other hand, amounts to Rs. 9,02,000, and is mainly under the following heads :—

Assessed Taxes—(Rs. 4,00,000), attributed to the favourable trade conditions of 1913-14 which swelled the profits of some of the coal and jute companies and many banks.

Mr. Beatson Bell.

Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments—(Rs. 2,13,000), caused by larger sale of quinine and to the credit here of $\frac{3}{4}$ths of the sale-proceeds of quinine treatments.

Stationery and Printing—(Rs. 36,000), due to the sale of waste-paper and unserviceable materials from the Dacca Jail Press on its removal to Gaya.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 97,000), due chiefly to larger anticipated lapse of deposits.

Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 85,000), due to larger collections of rent on Government buildings and larger proceeds from sale of Government buildings.

5. On the expenditure side the revised estimate shows a total decrease of Rs. 97,69,000, and is chiefly under the following heads :—

Stamps—(Rs. 1,00,000), due to reduction in the price charged by contractors for the supply of stamp paper and also to smaller payment of discount for smaller sales.

Excise—(Rs. 1,36,000), due to savings in the lump grants for reorganization of the department and for the construction of steam-launches.

Forests—(Rs. 43,000), due to lapse of the provision for new boilers for the steam-launches *Hauck* and *Helen Grey* of the Sundarbans Division, and savings in the grant for stores, communications and improvements as well as under salaries.

Registration—(Rs. 48,000), due to lapse of the provision for reorganization of establishment of District offices and revision of the cadre of District Sub-Registrars.

Police—(Rs. 5,18,000), due to savings in the grant for non-recurring charges for River Police and reorganization of the Eastern Bengal District Police.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 1,65,000), due to smaller payments to pilots owing to the partial suspension of trade and to non-payment of Rs. 75,000 provided provisionally for the purchase of a grab dredger at Chittagong.

Education—(Rs. 60,20,000), due to savings in the Imperial grants for both recurring and non-recurring expenditure.

Medical—(Rs. 17,58,000), due to savings in the grant for sanitation and non-utilization of the grant for equipment of the School of Tropical Medicine, as well as the transfer of a portion of the grant for Sanitation and the School of Tropical Medicine to the Public Works Department and other heads.

Agriculture—(Rs. 2,10,000), due to lapse of the lump provision for extra fieldmen-demonstrators and apprentices, savings in the grants for sericultural experiments, experimental farms, seed stores, salaries of the Botanic Gardens, and in the lump non-recurring grant for improvements.

Stationery and Printing—(Rs. 88,000), due to adjustment by reduction of expenditure of the sale-proceeds of the machinery of the Dacca Jail Press taken over by the Bihar and Orissa Government for the Gaya Jail.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 6,33,000), due to the adjustment of grants made by His Excellency to the appropriate heads, to the reappropriations of the reserve provision to meet expenditure under other heads, to the transfer of charges for grain allowance to the different departments by reappropriation from the lump provision under this head and savings in the grant for gratuitous relief.

On the other hand, there was a total increase in expenditure of Rs. 18,62,000, the largest items of which are noted below :—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 42,000), for larger expenditure under Salaries owing to the recall of officers from leave.

General Administration—(Rs. 55,000), due to several officers having been placed on special duty in the Secretariat.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 3,51,000), due to the same reason as under Land Revenue, to larger payments to pleaders for fees in connection with political cases, arrear pay on account of the revision of the Subordinate Judicial Service, and to the debit of grain allowance charges by transfer from 32—Miscellaneous.

Jails—(Rs. 3,02,000), for increased expenditure under rations and larger purchase of raw materials for the preparation of manufactures.

Superannuations—(Rs. 53,000), for larger grant for commutation of pensions.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs 2,78,000), for grant for the purchase of a dredger.

Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department—(Rs. 5,02,000), chiefly for larger grants to local funds for works of sanitary improvements by transfer from Medical and larger provision for augmentation grants.

Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 2,41,000), due to additional grants for land acquisition in connection with the David Hare Training College at Ballygunj and the Bethune College, Calcutta.

6. The net result of these changes is that the closing balance of 1914-15, which was estimated at Rs. 1,98,32,000 in March last, is now estimated at Rs. 2,81,31,000. The increase is chiefly due to smaller expenditure under Police, Education, Medical and Agriculture, as mentioned above, and to the assignment of 10 lakhs for Calcutta University hostels.

(3) BUDGET ESTIMATE, 1915-16.

7. The opening balance of 1915-16 is the closing balance of 1914-15, and is therefore Rs. 2,81,31,000.

8. The estimates for the year, as provisionally approved by the Government of India, show receipts aggregating Rs. 6,18,07,000, an expenditure of Rs. 6,58,29,000, and a closing balance of Rs. 2,41,09,000. Out of the special grant of 50 lakhs for the Calcutta Improvement Trust, which has appeared in the accounts since 1903-04, 40 lakhs have already been paid to the Trust, and the balance 10 lakhs will be paid in 1915-16. Of the estimated closing balance, the following are earmarked for special expenditure :—

	Rs.
Minimum balance	20,00,000
Balance of discretionary grant	10,49,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for Education ...	87,14,000
Ditto ditto Police ...	8,50,000
Ditto ditto Sanitation ...	10,49,000
Ranchi Lunatic Asylum	25,00,000
Amount earmarked for provincial equipments for the three years 1916-17 to 1918-19 ...	24,00,000
Grant promised to Belgatchia Hospital ...	5,00,000
Total ...	2,20,62,000

The difference between Rs. 2,41,09,000 and Rs. 2,20,62,000=20,47,000 is the free balance available for new expenditure in the near future.

9. The total estimated charges for 1915-16 amount to Rs. 6,58,29,000, which is in excess of the income by Rs. 10,22,000, owing mainly to the following provisions :—

	Rs.
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	10,00,000
Non-recurring expenditure of the Education Department from Imperial grants	18,00,000
Non-recurring expenditure of the Police Department from Imperial grants	4,00,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for the Agricultural Department	20,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for Medical relief ...	20,000
Equipment for the School of Tropical Medicine	50,000
Additional grant for the management of Government estates	50,000
Grant for gratuitous relief	50,000
Lump grant for Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department	4,88,000

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10. In the exceptional circumstances of the present year it has been found impossible to provide for the regrant of all the unexpended balances of the Imperial grants for Education, Sanitation, Police and discretionary grants. Under the orders of the Government of India, the budget had been prepared on the basis that the Provincial receipts cover all the charges and that the Provincial balances are not available for expenditure in 1915-16. Consequently, only the recurring grants for Education and Sanitation could be provided, but subsequently the Government of India have allowed a deficit of Rs. 40,22,000, including the special non-recurring grant of ten lakhs, to the Calcutta University for hostels recently sanctioned and provision has been made for the non-recurring charges mentioned in the paragraph above.

11. A schedule is attached showing the new schemes, costing individually more than Rs. 5,000 in any one year, which have been included in the budget. The non-recurring charges on account of these schemes amount to Rs. 17,820, and the recurring charges to Rs. 2,99,950. Besides these, the budget includes the following new schemes of a more or less petty nature —

(*a*) NON-RECURRING CHARGES.

	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue—		
Purchase of a boat for the Collector of Rajshahi	2,500	
Opening of two bridle roads in the Chittagong Hill Tracts... ...	21,751	
Pay of a Special officer for revising the Survey and Settlement Manual for six months	4,032	
		28,283
Excise—		
Purchase of typewriter for the Calcutta office	500	
Purchase of typewriter for the Darjeeling office	150	
Instruments for dram measures for retail country spirit shops ...	3,600	
		1,550
Forest—		
A playground for the Kurseong Forest School	1,000	
Construction of a rest-house at Raman	2,000	
Construction of a rest-house at Shishomukh in the Chittagong Hill Tracts	2,000	
		5,000
General Administration—		
Temporary establishment in the Bengali Translator's office ...	1,200	
Purchase of typewriter for the Bengal Librarian	400	
Purchase of typewriters for the offices of the Divisional Commissioners ...	1,085	
		2,685
Courts of Law—		
Preservation of memorial portraits, High Court	2,000	
Temporary establishment for Public Prosecutor, Calcutta	1,128	
Purchase of typewriter for Presidency Magistrate's Court ...	400	
		3,528

Jails—

	Rs.	Rs.
Pay of travelling auditor and his peon and travelling allowance ...	2,896	
Purchase of a typewriter for Inspector-General's Tour office ...	400	
Purchase of blankets for undertrial prisoners	4,241	
		7,537

Police—

Purchase of a typewriter for the Criminal Investigation Department ...	368	
Provision for replacing four unserviceable typewriters for District offices	1,500	
Supply of first kit, etc., for the reconstitution of town police, Rampur-Boalia	488	
		2,356

Medical—

Temporary establishment for the Cholera Ward of Campbell Hospital	836	
Purchase of an epidiascope ...	1,500	
		2,336

Political—

Provision for settling the boundary along the Mechi		1,000

Agriculture—

Temporary establishment for jute forecast work and their travelling allowances		1,300

Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments—

Provision for Secretariat Clerkship examination		800

Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers—

Purchase of two new ferry boats for Mymensingh Sadar and one for Jamalpore	2,004	
Repairs of ferry ghats, Ranaghat, Basirhat and Baduria	1,225	
Purchase of a new iron ferry boat for Gauri ghat	1,800	
Repairs of three cattle boats in Midnapore	800	
		5,829

(*b*) RECURRING CHARGES.

Land Revenue—

Local allowance to the establishment of Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	2,500	
Revision of elephant establishment of the Deputy Commissioner of Jalpaiguri	480	
Local allowance of the Personal Assistant to the Director of Land Records	1,200	
		4,180

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General Administration—

	Rs.	Rs.
Increase of pay of the Auditor for the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	600	
Revision of establishment of Private Secretary to Governor	1,704	
Revision of establishment of Military Secretary to Governor	2,276	
Daily allowance of the Indian Aide-de-Camp	750	
Increase of salary of the Chief Secretary to Government ...	4,800	
Increase of establishment for the Commerce Branch of the Secretariat	3,000	
Lump provision for revision of the establishment of the Board of Revenue	2,500	
Revision of elephant establishment of the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division	672	
	———	16,302

Courts of Law—

One shorthand-writer for High Court ...	1,800	
Pay of Additional Public Prosecutor, Hooghly	600	
Additional grant for contingencies of Jorabagan and Kyd Street Police Courts	3,000	
Provision for rewards for Arms Act cases	6,360	
Provision for rewards for arrest of armed and unarmed dacoits ...	2,000	
	———	13,760

Jails—

Pay of Deputy Superintendent, Dacca Central Jail	3,000	
Pay of Mechanic Mistri, Dacca Central Jail	720	
Pay of Electric Mistri and Blacksmith, Dacca Central Jail	780	
Grant of Terai allowance to the warders of the Darjeeling district ...	1,080	
	———	5,580

Police—

Allowance to steno-typist of the office of the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta	480	
Pay of two driver mechanics for the motor prison van	1,420	
Staff for the new Police Hospital, Chinsura	2,260	
Feed and keep of four buffaloes at Sarda	480	
Cash guard for Eastern Bengal State Railway, Sealdah	3,000	
Reconstitution of the town police, Rampur-Boalia	1,911	
Staff for Sara-Serajganj Railway ...	1,014	
Pay of lascars for 1 floating quarters for Inspectors of River Police ...	1,440	
Additional grant for Country Stationery	5,000	
Appointment of a jamadar mahout for the Deputy Commissioner of Jalpaiguri ...	600	
Allowance to Military Assistant Surgeon and Civil Assistant Surgeon of the Police Training College for teaching Medical Jurisprudence and First Aid	720	

	Rs.	Rs.
Police—concluded.		
Rent of telephone connection between Barrackpore Police exchange and police-stations at Naihati, Jagatdal, etc.	1,280	
Subsidy to the Military Police band ...	2,400	
		22,005
Ports and Pilotage—		
Allowance to surveyors for carrying out periodical examination of Government vessels in Calcutta	2,160	
Allowance to surveyors for carrying out periodical examination of Government vessels at Chittagong	720	
		2,880
Education—		
Conveyance allowance of Director of Public Instruction	1,200	
Appointment of Inspecting Maulvis	1,848	
Appointment of female attendants for Inspectresses	3,040	
Appointment of shorthand typist for the Presidency College	900	
Larger grant for teaching music in Dow Hill School	1,048	
Rent for "Jims Lodge" occupied by the Master of Cookery Class, Dow Hill School	1,200	
Cost of Cookery Class, Dow Hill School	1,680	
		10,916
Medical—		
Provision for revision of establishment of General Hospital ...	1,000	
Appointment of an additional Resident Sub-Assistant Surgeon, Campbell Hospital	780	
Appointment of Pathologist, House Medical Officer and Anaesthetist of Sambhunath Pandit Hospital ...	3,000	
Pathological laboratory and other expenses of Sambhunath Pandit Hospital	1,700	
Lady Superintendent of Swarnamoyee Hostel	1,800	
Provision for revision of establishment of the Medical College	2,052	
		10,332
Political—		
Additional clerk for the Political Agent		480
Agriculture—		
Appointment of a District Agricultural Officer	1,200	
Appointment of additional agricultural supervisors	4,800	
Appointment of three additional laboratory assistants	4,500	
Appointment of five clerks for agricultural supervisors	1,800	
Establishment for the second Deputy Director of Agriculture	1,284	

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	Rs.	Rs.
Agriculture—concluded.		
Additional clerk for the Rangpur Dairy Farm	360	
Additional establishment for Seed Stores	600	
Additional establishment for Sericultural Nurseries	1,000	
Grant for Co-operative Journal ...	1,200	
		19,744
Stationery and Printing—		
Personal allowance of the Manager, Darjeeling Branch Press		600
Miscellaneous—		
Grant to the Lady Minto Nursing Association, Chittagong		1,500

PART II.—Detailed remarks on the Budget for 1915-16.

RECEIPTS.

12. *Land Revenue.*—The total collections in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 2,80,28,537, and the estimate for 1915-16 as provisionally passed by the Government of India is Rs. 2,91,19,000 against Rs. 2,84,80,000, the revised estimate for 1914-15. The estimate includes Rs. 17,92,000 for recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges against Rs. 15,58,000, the revised estimate for 1914-15.

13. The estimated Provincial share of Land Revenue is calculated as follows :—

	Estimate, 1914-15.	Revised estimate, 1914-15.	Estimate, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Land Revenue ...	2,96,61,000	2,84,80,000	2,91,19,000
Deduct—Estimated collections from Government Estates (wholly Provincial) ...	47,00,000	40,50,000	44,37,000
Deduct—Recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	2,000	2,000	.....
Deduct—Recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges (wholly Imperial) ...	20,24,000	15,58,000	17,92,000
Total Deduction ...	67,26,000	56,10,000	62,29,000
Net amount divisible between Imperial, and Provincial revenues	2,29,38,000	2,28,70,000	2,29,20,000
Provincial share, one-half ...	1,14,69,000	1,14,35,000	1,14,60,000
Add—Collections from Government Estates (wholly Provincial)	47,00,000	40,50,000	44,37,000
Add—Recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	2,000	2,000	.....
Total Provincial receipts	1,61,71,000	1,54,87,000	1,58,97,000

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14. *Stamps.*—The revenue from Stamps for 1914-15 was estimated at Rs. 2,23,00,000. The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 2,19,10,831, and the collections in the first ten months of 1914-15 show a decrease of Rs. 14,58,000 as compared with the actuals of the corresponding period of the preceding year. The receipts under this head show improvement up to the end of July 1914, but steadily declined from August, owing to dislocation of business and trade caused by the war. Some decrease is also anticipated in the last two months and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 2,02,00,000. It is anticipated that the decrease will not continue in 1915-16, but there might be a small increase of one lakh and the budget for that year has been placed at Rs. 2,03,00,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,01,00,000 for 1914-15 and Rs. 1,01,50,000 for 1915-16.

15. *Excise.*—The budget estimate of the total revenue under this head for 1914-15 was placed by the Government of India at Rs. 1,58,00,000. The actuals of 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 1,53,88,578, and those of the first ten months of 1914-15 show a small increase of Rs. 1,82,000 only over the actuals of the corresponding period of the preceding year. The present crisis has affected consumption in the chief jute-growing districts and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 1,55,00,000; and allowing for a progressive increase of 5 lakhs, the estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 1,60,00,000. The treasury price of opium will be raised to Rs. 40 per seer from 1st April 1915, and the duty on ganja will be raised from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20. On the other hand, owing to the rise in price of opium and to the war a large decrease in consumption is anticipated. The receipts under this head are wholly Provincial.

16. *Provincial Rates.*—The collections from the Public Works cess are now being surrendered to District Boards. Under General Rates for the management of Private Estates, the estimate of receipts for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,10,000, which is the same as the revised estimate for 1914-15. The actuals of 1913-14, which included collections of arrears, were Rs. 1,31,340.

17. *Assessed Taxes.*—The budget estimate of receipts from Income-tax for 1914-15 was Rs. 61,00,000. The actual collections in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 66,37,916 and collections in the first eleven months of the year 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 4,26,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year. The increase is attributed to the favourable trade conditions of 1913-14, which swelled the profits of some of the coal and jute companies and many of the banks. The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 69,00,000. Owing to the war in Europe the conditions of trade are now unfavourable, and the profits of bankers and industrial concerns will be greatly affected during 1914-15. As the assessment for 1915-16 will be based on the profits of 1914-15, the estimate for that year has been placed at a reduced sum of Rs. 61,00,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 34,50,000 and Rs. 30,50,000 respectively.

18. *Forests.*—The total receipts under this head for 1914-15 were estimated at Rs. 16,00,000 against Rs. 16,16,111, the actuals of 1913-14. The collections in the first ten months of 1914-15 show a decrease of Rs. 2,40,000 as compared with those of the corresponding period of last year. The sales of timber have declined owing to the difficulty experienced in financing the timber trade and to a diminution of the purchasing power of jute cultivators who are large customers for *sál*, and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 13,10,000. Allowing for an increase of Rs. 1,40,000 in 1915-16, the estimate has been passed for Rs. 14,50,000. The Conservator anticipates a substantial increase in 1915-16.

19. *Registration.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 20,50,000 against Rs. 20,16,144, the actuals of 1913-14. The actual collections in the first nine months of the year 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 12,69,000 and for the remaining three months of the year the receipts have been taken at Rs. 5,31,000 and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 18,00,000. The revenue under this head underwent considerable fluctuations up to August

1914, and has since that month declined steadily owing to the slackness of the jute trade. Allowing for an increase of one lakh, the estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs 19,00,000.

20. *Interest.*—The estimate of loans provides for a return, in the way of interest during 1915-16, of Rs. 5,29,000 against Rs. 4,62,000 in 1914-15 as shown below :—

	Revised estimate, 1914-15.	Estimate, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.
Interest on advances to cultivators, etc.	55,000	50,000
Interest on advances to Co-operative Credit Societies	3,000	2,000
Interest on drainage and embankment advances	9,000	14,000
Interest on loans to landholders ...	1,59,000	1,60,000
„ „ „ to Municipalities and District Boards, etc. ...	2,09,000	2,90,000
Miscellaneous	27,000	13,000
Total ...	4,62,000	5,29,000

The decrease under Miscellaneous is due to the payment of the interest on arrears of the Public Works Cess to the District Boards.

21. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 8,42,811, while the receipts in the first nine months of 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 9,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year. The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 8,62,000, and the estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 9,13,000. The increase is chiefly under fees, fines and forfeitures.

22 *Jails.*—The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 6,71,947, but the receipts in the first eight months of the year 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 52,000 as compared with those of the corresponding period of last year, and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 7,31,000. It has been decided that two-fifths of the receipts from the sale of quinine packets should be taken under this head instead of one-fifth as before. The sale-proceeds of quinine treatment, which were credited to the head Medical, are also from 1914-15 credited to this head and to the Cinchona Department in the proportion of 2 : 3. The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 7,60,000.

23. *Police.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 1,77,000 against Rs. 1,56,684, the actuals of 1913-14. The receipts in the first nine months of 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 25,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year on account of larger receipts from the Motor Cycle Act, and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 1,87,000. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,86,000.

24. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 16,76,604, while the budget estimate for 1914-15 was originally passed for Rs. 17,16,000. The actual collections in the first nine months amounted to Rs. 11,06,857 and for the last three months of the year the receipts have been taken at Rs. 4,18,143, and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 15,25,000. The decrease is under Pilotage receipts and is due to the reduction in the number of vessels entering and leaving the Calcutta port in consequence of the dislocation of trade caused by the war. The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 16,20,000 and provides for a receipt of Rs. 72,000 for the hire by the Government of India of the steamer *Guide* for station duty at Port Blair against Rs. 30,000 provided for in the revised estimate on the same account.

25. *Education.*—The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 8,10,953, and the budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 8,62,000. This has been reduced to Rs. 8,12,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the current year, which amounted to Rs. 5,68,321, against Rs. 5,65,585 obtained in the corresponding period of last year. The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 8,86,000, and includes Rs. 24,000 from fees of the residential school for Indian boys at Hastings House, Calcutta, and Rs. 16,000 on account of fees and fines from Madrassas, which were hitherto credited to the Mohsin Fund.

26. *Medical.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 3,97,000 and included Rs. 50,000 under Medicines sold by Civil Surgeons. This included the sale-proceeds of quinine treatments prepared by the Juvenile Jail and sold through the agency of Civil Surgeons, which are now readjusted by credit to the Jails and Cinchona Departments in the proportion of 2 : 3, with effect from 1914-15. Against this decrease, there was an increase under Hospital receipts and College fees, and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 3,75,000. The budget for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 3,80,000, and includes larger receipts from college and school fees.

27. *Agriculture.*—Under the orders of the Government of India the head Scientific and other Minor Departments has now been divided into two heads —(*A*) Agriculture, which includes the items, Veterinary and Stallion receipts; Agriculture, Botanical and other gardens, and receipts on account of public exhibitions and fairs, while the other items have been classified under (*B*) Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments. The budget estimate for 1914-15 under Agriculture was Rs. 85,000, but this has been reduced to Rs. 78,000 in the revised estimate, the actuals of 1913-14 having been Rs. 78,756. The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 82,000 and includes larger receipts from the Veterinary Department.

28. *Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 1,87,000 against Rs. 1,98,925, the actuals of 1913-14. The actuals in the first eight months of 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 4,10,000 (of which Rs. 3,73,000 represented the sale-proceeds of cinchona and its products against Rs. 1,50,000, the estimate for the whole year). This special increase is due to the credit of three-fifths of the sale-proceeds of quinine treatments sold through the agency of Civil Surgeons and to the large sale of quinine sulphate, of which a large stock was laid in, in 1912-13. The increase is also partly due to the credit of fees for registration of Joint Stock Companies, which were hitherto credited to the head Registration. The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 4,30,000, but as such large receipts may not continue in 1915-16, the estimate under this head has been passed for Rs. 3,53,000, providing for Rs. 3,00,000 as receipts from cinchona, against Rs. 3,71,000 anticipated in 1914-15.

29. *Receipts in aid of Superannuation.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 39,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 42,000 in view of the actual collections in the first nine months of the year, showing an increase of Rs. 3,500. The estimate for 1915-16 has however been passed for Rs. 40,000.

30. *Stationery and Printing.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 1,20,000 against Rs. 1,37,862 the actuals of 1913-14, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 1,56,000 in view of the actual collections in the first nine months of the year. The increase is attributed to the sale of waste-paper and unserviceable materials from the Dacca Jail Press on its removal to Gaya. The estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 1,32,000.

31. *Miscellaneous.*—The receipts for 1914-15 were estimated at Rs. 5,92,000 against Rs. 7,68,760, the actuals of 1913-14, which included Rs. 6,01,162 from unclaimed deposits. The budget estimate under this sub-head was Rs. 4,80,000, but in the revised estimate it has been raised to Rs. 5,55,000, and the total receipts to Rs. 6,89,000. The estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 6,90,000 and includes Rs. 5,80,000 for unclaimed deposits.

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32. *Irrigation, Major Works (Direct Receipts.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 2,67,000 against Rs. 2,46,579, the actuals of 1913-14. The actual collections in the first ten months of 1914-15 show a decrease of Rs. 24,000 and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 2,40,000. The decrease is due to restricted traffic on account of the silted condition of the Hijili Tidal Canal and smaller export of rice through the Midnapore Canal. The revised estimate has been repeated for the budget for 1915-16. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,20,000 for both the years.

33. *Irrigation, Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 6,10,000 against Rs. 5,65,040, the actuals of 1913-14. The actual collections in the first nine months of 1914-15 show a decrease of Rs. 27,000 and the revised estimate for the year has been placed at Rs. 5,24,000. The decrease is chiefly due to stoppage of jute traffic in the Calcutta and Eastern Canals and Madaripur Bhil route, as well as smaller receipts from tollage on steamers in the latter, also for smaller collections from water-rate in the Eden Canal. The Magra Hât Drainage is now complete and increased receipts are expected from this canal, and the estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 5,70,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 2,62,000 in 1914-15 and to Rs. 2,85,000 in 1915-16.

34. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 3,85,000 against Rs. 4,34,258, the actuals of 1913-14. The actuals of the first nine months of 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 35,000 and the revised estimate has been passed for Rs. 4,70,000. The increase is due to the growth of receipts from rent of Government buildings and larger sale-proceeds of buildings. The estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 4,25,000.

35. *Transfer between Imperial and Provincial Revenues.*—This is a new head opened under the orders of the Government of India to show the net assignments to or from Provincial Revenues in place of the major head "Land Revenue—Adjustments" which was included under the major head of Land Revenue. The estimate includes the following transfers from Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.
Contribution for Famine Relief Scheme	60,000
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust for 60 years ...	1,50,000
Recurring assignment in connection with remission of appropriations from Public Works Cess	24,93,000
Recurring grant for Sanitation	5,00,000
Contribution to meet charges of Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry ...	35,000
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers in municipalities	39,000
Contribution to meet the cost of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners	19,000
Recurring assignment for the Belgachia Veterinary College ...	30,000
Recurring assignment for provincialisation of salaries of Civil Veterinary Department	29,000
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with Fishery Department	9,000
Recurring grant for Dacca University	45,000
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University for five years from 1914-15	1,00,000
Recurring grant for popular education	9,25,000
Recurring grant for aided English Secondary Schools ...	1,50,000
Recurring grant to the Church Missionary Society College, Calcutta	6,000

	Rs.
Recurring grant for the extension of education among poorer classes of the domiciled community	40,000
Recurring grant for the improvement of female education ...	30,000
Recurring grant for the development of the work of the Calcutta University	65,000
Recurring grant for education	13,20,000
Further recurring grant for education	1,50,000
Assignment in connection with Scientific Research of Dr. J. C. Bose	9,000
Assignment for the cost of forms, etc., for the Assam Administration	1,05,000
Assignment for grant to the Chittagong Port Fund for 5 years from 1913-14	75,000
Recurring assignment for recovery claims of the office of the Agent, Government Consignments	11,000
Contribution for recovery of cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court Fees Act ...	6,000
Recurring assignment for pensions of title-holders ...	3,000
Recurring assignment for remission of certain recoveries from local bodies	26,000
Recurring grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art Section of the Indian Museum with the Calcutta School of Art	1,000
Assignment for Traffic Registration Office, Bhairab Bazar ...	1,000
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa Government towards pay of Electrical staff	8,000
Total ...	64,40,000

The estimate also includes the following transfers from Provincial to Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.
Recurring fixed adjustment under the terms of the Settlement	7,28,000
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa Government for grants to Colleges	21,000
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa for law charges formerly paid by this Government	15,000
Recurring adjustment for No. 9, Hare Street	9,000
Total ...	7,73,000

The net assignment from Imperial Revenues is Rs. 64,40,000 — 7,73,000 =Rs. 56,67,000.

EXPENDITURE.

36. *Refunds and Drawbacks.*—The total Provincial expenditure in 1915-16 is estimated at Rs. 1,41,000, against Rs. 1,35,000, the Budget estimate for 1914-15, and Rs. 1,35,656, the actuals of 1913-14. The estimates under this head are based, as usual, on the average actuals of the previous three years, excluding special payments. The actuals of 1911-12 included a special payment of Rs. 6,000 under Land Revenue for an erroneous credit given in 1910-11 for cost of maps, and those of 1912-13 a special payment of Rs. 8,000 under Stamps. The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 1,64,000 and includes special payments of Rs. 12,000 for license fees under Excise in Darjeeling, and of Rs. 8,000 for refund of Income-tax to a Russian Trading Company

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37. *Assignments and Compensations.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 43,000, but this has been reduced to Rs. 32,000 in the revised estimate owing to smaller payments of Malikana. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 42,000 which provides for actual claims.

38. *Land Revenue.*—The total provincial expenditure for 1915-16 is estimated at Rs. 36,66,000, against Rs. 35,75,000, the revised, and Rs. 35,33,000, the Budget estimate for 1914-15 as shown below :—

	1914-15		1915-16
	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Charges of District Administration ...	27,01,000	28,60,000	28,48,000
(2) Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	10,000	17,000	24,000
(3) Management of Government Estates ...	5,68,000	4,58,000	5,28,000
(4) Survey and Settlement...	2,15,000	1,81,000	2,00,000
(5) Land Records ...	41,000	59,000	66,000
Total ...	35,33,000	35,75,000	36,66,000

The estimate under 1 provides for larger grant under salaries of Magistrates, etc., as no leave will ordinarily be given to the Indian Civil Service Officers during the war, for increased grant for travelling allowances of officers, for diet and travelling allowances to witnesses, and for remuneration to copyists. The increase in the revised is due to additional expenditure under Salaries owing to the recall of Indian Civil Service Officers from leave. The decrease in the revised estimate under 3 is due to lapse of provision for improvements in Government estates.

39. *Stamps.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 7,52,000, but in view of the decrease under receipts and consequent smaller payments of discount and the favourable terms for the supply of stamp paper, the revised estimate has been reduced to Rs. 5,51,000. The Controller of Stamps and Stationery has reported that under the new agreement with the contractors for the supply of stamp paper, the provision of some of the items have been reduced by 50 per cent., and that the cost of demy paper has also been much reduced. The budget for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 6,05,000 and follows the anticipated increase under receipts. The charges of this department are divided equally between the Imperial and Provincial revenues and the Provincial share amounts to Rs. 2,76,000 and Rs. 3,03,000, respectively.

40. *Excise.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 8,77,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 7,11,000 as the grant for the reorganization of the department will not be fully utilized, and out of the sum of Rs. 50,000 for the construction of launches, Rs. 20,000 only will probably be spent. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 8,02,000 and includes 1½ lakhs for the reorganization of the department, Rs. 20,000 for the construction of boats and launches, and Rs. 5,000 for the construction of quarters.

41. *Provincial Rates.*—The cost of collection of the cesses and the valuation and revaluation charges are debited in the first instance to the head "3—Land Revenue—Charges of District Administration," but ultimately recovered from District Boards and the recoveries, including pension contributions, are taken in reduction of expenditure under that head.

42. *Assessed Taxes.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 1,51,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 1,54,000 owing to higher grade pay of the Deputy Collector and to the payment of leave allowances to Assessors in Calcutta. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,52,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 77,000 and Rs. 76,000, respectively.

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43. *Forests.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 7,27,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 6,84,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is due to the provision for new boilers of the launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey* not having been utilized. The provision for the construction of certain roads also has not been utilized in full. The budget for 1915-16 amounts to Rs. 6,66,000 and includes provision for the supply of new boilers referred to above and for the anticipated return of senior officers from leave. The decrease in 1915-16 is due to exclusion of special expenditure on roads and buildings.

44. *Registration.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 11,99,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 11,51,000 owing to the non-utilization of the lump provision for revision of the cadre of District Sub-Registrars, and the establishment in District Offices, and to the transfer of the provision for the new Registrar of Joint Stock Companies to "26B—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments." The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 11,23,000, and does not provide for revision of establishment.

45. *Interest on Ordinary Debt.*—This is interest payable from the Provincial revenues to the Imperial revenues on the amount advanced by the latter to the Local Government for loans to cultivators, under the Agriculturists' Loans and Land Improvements Loans Acts, for advances to Co-operative Societies, for advances on drainage and embankment schemes, for loans to notabilities and to municipalities and other public corporations (excluding Presidency Corporations).

46. *General Administration.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 23,53,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 24,08,000. The increase is partly under staff and household of the Governor, owing to the increased charges on account of establishment, travelling allowances and contingencies, for the separation of the offices of the Private Secretary to Governor and Military Secretary to Governor, and partly under Civil Secretariat, chiefly for the charges on account of officers on special duty on the recall of Indian Civil Service Officers from leave. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 23,74,000 and generally follows the budget for 1914-15 with additions under staff and household for the reasons given above, and under Civil Secretariat for increase of salary of the Chief Secretary and increased establishment sanctioned for the Education and Commerce branches for increase of work.

47. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 99,53,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 1,03,01,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The increase is chiefly under Law Officers owing to larger payment of pleaders' fees in connection with the several political cases and partly under Civil and Sessions Courts, owing to arrear payments on account of revision of the Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned towards the close of 1913-14, and partly under Criminal Courts owing to recall of Indian Civil Service Officers from leave as explained under "3—Land Revenue." The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,01,24,000. It includes full provision for the sanctioned number of High Court Judges, Inspector of Judicial Offices, Registrar of Insolvency, and Additional Sub-Deputy Collectors for appointment as Circle Officers, larger provision for fees to pleaders in criminal and civil suits in the mufassal, larger grants for rates and taxes and contingencies of the Presidency Magistrates' Courts owing to the division of Courts in three places, and for the payment of rewards in Arms Act cases, and for the arrest of both armed and unarmed dacoits.

48. *Jails.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 20,76,000, but the actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 22,62,882, and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been raised to Rs. 23,78,000 with reference to the actuals of the first eight months of the year. The increase is chiefly due to larger dietary charges and the purchase of raw materials. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 21,95,000. The decrease is due to small provision for dietary charges and purchase of raw materials as compared with the figures for the revised estimates, but larger than the budget grant for 1914-15.

49. *Police.*—The following table shows the figures under this head :—

Heads.	Actuals, 1913-14.	1914-15. Budget.	1914-15. Revised.	Estimate, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Presidency Police ...	15,95,085	17,23,000	17,08,000	17,45,000
Superintendence ...	3,15,607	2,62,000	2,85,000	2,34,000
Criminal Investigation Department ...	4,78,209	4,95,000	5,56,000	5,31,000
District Executive Force	64,61,986	80,71,000	72,21,000	73,87,000
Village Police ...	34,020	30,000	5,000	8,000
Special ,, ...	2,52,748	2,42,000	2,56,000	3,01,000
Railway ,, ...	3,26,211	3,19,000	3,46,000	3,25,000
Cattle-pounds ...	236	250	500	250
Refunds	3,976	2,750	2,500	3,750
Lump deduction ...	.....	—2,50,000	.....	.....
Total ...	94,71,081	1,08,98,000	1,03,80,000	1,05,35,000

The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been framed with reference to the actuals of the first eight months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to partial utilization of the lump provisions for additional police and reorganization of the subordinate police in the Eastern Bengal districts and to savings in the allotment for river police. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,05,35,000 and includes—

	Rs.
Presidency Police—	
Increased staff for registration of motor vehicles	8,580
Increased staff for Barabazar Thana	11,420
District Police—	
Revision of boat establishment in Eastern Bengal districts	49,000
Appointment of Second Personal Assistant of the Inspector-General of Police	20,000
Reorganization of the Subordinate Police of Eastern Bengal districts	10,000
Reorganization of the River Police	10,222
Non-recurring expenditure from Imperial grants for reorganization and River Police, viz., for launches and buildings, etc.	1,00,000
Crew for the new launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj ...	4,000
Staff for new Police Hospital, Chinsura ...	2,260
Reconstitution of Town Police, Rampur-Boalia ...	2,399
Increase of staff at Dhanbaid Railway Police ...	1,448
Increased staff for division of East Indian Railway Jurisdiction	6,618
Armed Police, Pabna, Malda and Bogra ...	9,381
Headquarters treasury guards	5,692

50. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 15,39,000, but in the revised this has been reduced to Rs. 13,74,000, owing to smaller payments to the pilots due to the partial suspension of trade owing to the war and to the lapse of the provision of Rs. 75,000 for grant to the Chittagong Port Fund for a grab dredger which was not sanctioned. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 14,76,000, and provision has been made for normal expenditure of the department with reference to requirements. It includes the Government grant of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.

51. *Education.*—The total Provincial expenditure in 1914-15 was estimated at Rs. 1,45,43,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 85,23,000 with reference to the actual charges in the first ten

months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to savings in the grants from Imperial Revenues which were not fully utilised. During the year the Government of India sanctioned an additional non-recurring grant of one lakh for five years for the Dacca University and a non-recurring grant of 10 lakhs for the Calcutta University for hostels, which have not been utilised. The budget grant for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,05,62,000, and is thus compared with the actuals of the past three years.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15		1915-16.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14.	Budget.	Revised	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.
University	66 028	3,15,000	1,78 500	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,15,000
Direction	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,51,032	1,67,000	1,62,000	1,58,000
Inspection	8 01,480	7,82,598	7,83,208	7,89,000	9,05,000	8,00,000
Government Colleges, General ...	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,55,924	8,99,000	9 82 000	9,12,000
Government Colleges, Professional	3,35,128	4,00 575	3 57,324	3,72,000	3,60,000	3,54,000
Government Schools, General ...	14,38,548	19,81,325	22 81,411	11,73,000	20,59,000	11,97,000
Ditto, Special ...	5,75 620	5 98 433	5 78,827	6,88 000	6,59,000	6,09,000
Grants-in-aid	14,28,094	17,24,594	20 99,939	15 06,000	27,53 000	15,06,000
Scholarships	2,19 049	2,24,40)	2 41,638	2,44,000	2 46,000	2 44,000
Miscellaneous	2,17,307	1,20,518	6,42 200	1,40 000	3,25,000	1,44 000
Refunds	2,454	1,097	2,512	2,000	2,000	3,000
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure ...	...	...	...	5 11 000	...	...
Lump provision for hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca ...	...	...	...	2,17,000	...	}
Lump provision for hostels in Calcutta	...	...	...	8,70,000	...	} 8,00,000
Expenditure from the non recurring assignment of 75 lakhs...	...	...	...	30 00,000	...	}
Lump provision for improving popular education ...	...	...	...	} 11 72,000	...	{ 9,25 000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of 1912 13 ...	...	...	...	}	...	{ ...
Lump provision for secondary education	...	...	...	1,28 0 00	...	1 50,000
Lump provision for female education (recurring) ...	...	...	...	30 000	...	30,000
Expenditure of the recurring grant	...	...	...	25 20,000	...	13,20,000
Further recurring grant ...	...	...	...	1,50,000	...	1,50,000
Dacca University and hostels (non recurring)	...	...	...	3,00,000	...	1,00,000
Dacca University and hostels (recurring)	...	...	...	45 000	...	45,000
Calcutta University for hostels (non recurring)	...	...	...	...	...	10,00,000
Lump deduction	...	...	...	—5,00,000	...	...
Total ...	61,21,873	73,76,829	81 12 515	1,45,43 000	85,23,000	1 05,62,000

The budget for 1915-16 includes the following items of expenditure :—

	Rs.
Assistant Professor for Philosophy, Presidency College	4,800
Shorthand-typist, Presidency College	900
Higher pay for the Lady Principal, Bethune College	2,400
Female attendants for Inspectress and Assistant Inspectress of Schools	3,040
Remuneration of authors and publishers in connection with the preparation of Urdu Readers for girls	2,000
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University recently sanctioned by the Government of India ...	1,00,000
Non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grants for past years (details not settled) ...	4,0 ,000
Non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grants for past years in connection with the Calcutta University Institute and the Baker hostel ...	4,00,000
Grant to the Calcutta University for Hostels ...	10,00,000
Cost of Cookery class, Dow Hill School	1,680

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The Imperial grants are likely to be expended in 1914-15, thus :—

	Budget grant.	Amount likely to be spent during 1914-15. Under Education.	Under "45—C. W. (P. W. D.)"	Total probable expenditure.
Non-recurring.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Non-recurring expenditure	5,11,000	11,000	1,23,000	1,34,000
Hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca	2,17,000	28,000	53,000	81,000
Non-recurring Imperial assignments ...	30,00,000	1,46,000	10,67,000	15,13,000
Dacca University ...	3,00,000	1,000	40,000	41,000
Hostels in Calcutta ..	8,70,000	1,15,000	1,26,000	2,41,000
Recurring.				
Dacca University ...	15,000	.....	.....	.....
Imperial assignment ...	25,20,000	4,47,000	1,05,000	5,52,000
Popular education ...	11,72,000	7,86,000	1,50,000	9,36,000
Secondary Aided Vernacular Schools ...	1,28,000	1,28,000	.....	1,28,000
Female education ...	30,000	10,000	.....	10,000
Recurring grant ...	1,50,000	60,000	.....	60,000
Total ...	89,43,000	20,32,000	16,64,000	36,96,000

52. *Medical.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 47,81,000, but this has been reduced to Rs. 30,23,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to savings in the grant for works of sanitary improvements and also to the transfer of a portion of the grant which was made to Municipalities and District Boards to the head "45.—Civil Works in charge of Civil officers" and a portion to "45.—Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department." The sum of Rs. 50,000 given to the Provincial Government by the Indian Research Fund for jungle-clearing was refunded to that body in 1914-15 as the amount could not be spent in the way suggested. Many of the Indian Medical Service officers have reverted to the Military Department, and this also caused some savings in expenditure. The budget for 1915-16 amounts to Rs. 36,13,000 and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Lump grant for expenditure on Works of sanitary improvements (Imperial recurring grant) ...	5,00,000
Lump grant being the amount allowed in the Provincial settlement	4,50,000
Lump grant for Medical Relief, being the unexpended Imperial grant	20,000
Lump grant for the School of Tropical Medicine, being the unexpended Imperial grant ...	13,000
Lump grant for equipments of the school ...	50,000
Lump grant for the State Medical Faculty ...	10,000
Lump grant for the Bengal Council of Medical Registration	10,000

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The grants for Presidency Hospitals are shown below :—

	Salaries.	Establishment	Allowances.	Clothing and bedding.	Diet.	Other supplies.	Contingencies	Total.
	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs		Rs	Rs.	Rs.
Medical College Hospital	50,910	19,228	200	90,000		1,11,000	87,662	3,59,000
General Hospital ...	67,920	10,096	1,360	77,000		36,600	48,024	2,41,000
Campbell Hospital ...	14,520	27,528	11,000	36,000		18,000	33,952	1,41,000
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...	5,400	3,576	180	17,000		1,200	7,644	35,000

53. *Political.*—The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 30,000 against Rs. 29,000, the budget estimate for 1914-15. The increase is under Miscellaneous for lump provision for demarcation of boundaries as the question of the settlement of the whole boundary along the Mechi is under consideration.

54. *Agriculture.*—The heads "Scientific and other Minor Departments" has now been divided under the orders of the Government of India into two Major heads "Agriculture" and "Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments." Under the former head Veterinary, Agriculture, Botanic and other public gardens, Bacteriology and Co-operative Societies are shown, while all the other minor heads are now shown under "Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments." The estimate under the former head for 1914-15 was Rs. 11,86,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 9,76,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly under expert staff owing to lapse of the provision for extra fieldmen, under Sericulture owing to savings in the grant for experiments and large savings in the non-recurring grant for agricultural improvements. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 11,17,000 and includes the following items of expenditure :—

	Rs.
Cost of printing postcard forms for reporting cattle diseases	1,000
Cost of an officer under training in the Veterinary College	6,480
Cost of a Veterinary Assistant to be in charge of Government elephants in Jalpaiguri	1,400
Cost of temporary establishment for Jute forecast work	1,300
One District Agricultural Officer	1,200
Additional Supervisors	1,800
Cost of three Laboratory Assistants	4,500
Clerks for Agricultural Supervisors	1,800
Additional Fieldmen Demonstrators	6,000
Cost of two Inspectors for the Co-operative Department	2,400
Lump provision for revision of establishment for the office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies ...	6,476

55. *Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 5,14,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 5,28,000. The decrease is chiefly owing to smaller expenditure in the Factories and Fisheries Departments and savings in the grants for Gazetteers as the work of revision has not yet been completed. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 5,05,000 and includes provision for Assistant Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies, Rs. 3,600 ; carp culture by Fishery Department, Rs. 2,000 ; experimental culture in Sundarbans fisheries, Rs. 2,000 ; and fishery yarn, Rs. 2,000.

56. *Superannuation.*—The charges under this head rise year after year owing to increase in the number of claims to pension. The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 32,31,000, but in the revised this has been raised to Rs. 32,84,000 as the allotment for the commuted value of pensions has been raised from Rs. 75,000 to Rs. 1,50,000. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 34,29,000 and includes 2 lakhs for the commutation of pensions.

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57. *Stationery and Printing.*—The following table shows the charges under this head :—

Heads.	Actuals, 1913-14.	Budget estimate, 1914-15.	Revised estimate, 1914-15.	Budget estimate, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Forms Department at the Presidency ...	59,712	71,000	62,000	.....
Stationery purchased in this country ...	25,965	25,000	29,000	28,000
Government Presses ...	6,36,085	6,84,000	6,00,000	6,91,000
Printing at private presses	2,505	2,000	3,000	3,000
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	7,58,232	6,60,000	6,60,000	6,60,000
Refunds	2,997	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total ...	14,85,496	14,44,000	13,56,000	13,87,000

The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 14,44,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 13,56,000, chiefly owing to the adjustment by reduction of expenditure under the head Government Presses of Rs. 69,000, being the sale-proceeds of machinery, etc., supplied by the Dacca Jail to the Gaya Jail Press. The provision for overtime allowance to the clerks of the Forms Branch was not required in 1914-15, and hence the decrease under that minor head. That branch has now been amalgamated with the Jail Press, and the charges are now included under Government Presses. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 13,87,000. No provision has been made for the Dacca Jail Press which has been abolished, while Rs. 6,000 has been included for the improvement of the Confidential Section of the Secretariat Press.

58. *Miscellaneous.*—The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 10,81,000, but in the revised this has been reduced to Rs. 1,48,000. The reduction is due to the adjustment, under appropriate heads, of expenditure sanctioned by His Excellency from the provision for petty grants, of charges for grain compensation allowance and to the reappropriation of the reserve provision of Rs. 1,50,000 in order to meet expenditure under other heads and the savings in the allotment of Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief in the flooded districts. Against these transfers and savings additional charges were incurred under Special Commissions of Enquiry on account of the Port Development Committee and District Administration Committee. Special grants of Rs. 5,000, Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 2,500 have been sanctioned for the construction of a female vagrant ward within the compound of the Government Alms House, for the extension of the Calcutta Orphanage and to the Salvation Army respectively. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 10,16,000, and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Allotment for petty grants by His Excellency ...	1,00,000
Ditto for payment of grain compensation allowance	4,00,000
Gratuitous relief	50,000
General reserve for unforeseen requirements ...	1,50,000
Guarantee charges for telegraph lines	10,000

59. *Irrigation Major Works Working expenses.*—The actual expenditure in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 2,97,789 and the estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 2,96,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 2,58,000 with reference to the actuals for the first eight months of the year. The decrease is chiefly under "Maintenance and Repairs of the Midnapore Canal." The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 2,67,000. The Provincial share (one-half) amounts to Rs. 1,29,000 and Rs. 1,33,000 respectively.

60. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Civil Department.*—The budget for 1914-15 was Rs. 8,000, but owing to the adjustment under Public Works Department of expenditure on bandalling the Ganges near Rampore-Boalia by transfer from this head the revised estimate has

been reduced to Rs. 2,000. The budget for 1915-16 has been placed at the same amount, and the Provincial share for both the years 1914-15 and 1915-16 amounts to Rs. 1,000.

61. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 22,38,000 against Rs. 19,21,457, the actuals of 1913-14. During the year additional grants aggregating six lakhs was sanctioned for the purchase of dredging plant required for the maintenance and improvement of waterways, but Rs. 19,250 has been placed at the disposal of the District Board of Bakarganj as Government contribution for re-excavation of the Damoda channel by the District Board. The revised estimate now stands at Rs. 27,94,000. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 22,92,000, and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Construction of an escape in the first reach of the Midnapore canal	11,000
Acquisition of land required for working the dredger *Fogers*	50,000
Second supply sluice and other works in connection with the Eden Canal	20,000
Training works in the river Ganges between Digha and Damukdia	35,000
Training works in the Dhaleswari and Burigonga rivers	60,000
Maintenance and repairs of the Mogra Hât drainage	40,000
Flood damage repairs to embankments	1,00,000
Works to mitigate the effects of the Damodar floods	35,000
Raising the Damodar left embankment	70,000
Concrete mattress protection at Diamond Harbour	70,000

The Provincial share (one-half) amounts to Rs. 13,97,000 for 1914-15 and Rs. 11,46,000 for 1915-16.

62. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 89,59,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 92,00,000 for expenditure of the special grants for land acquisition in connection with the David Hare Training College at Ballyganj and the Bethune College, Calcutta. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 64,88,000, which is distributed thus :—

	1914-15.		1915-16.
	Budget.	Revised	Budget
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Original works ...	55,59,000	54,86,000	28,88,000
Repairs ...	21,83,000	22,95,000	22,00,000
Establishment ...	11,17,000	12,40,000	13,50,000
Tools and plants	70,000	89,000	50,000
Stock and suspense	.....	90,000	.....
Total ...	89,59,000	92,00,000	64,88,000

The grants for repairs, establishment and tools and plants have been fixed at the lowest sum possible, and large reductions had to be made in the grant for original works. As the whole of the available money is required for works in progress, there is no money to allot for new works. Rupees 3,00,000 has been allowed to Heads of Departments for Minor Works grant against Rs. 4,25,000 for 1914-15, and the amount is distributed thus :—

	Rs.
Education	56,000
Medical	38,000
Registration	12,000
Police	38,000
Calcutta Police	12,000
Jails	30,000
Excise	8,000
Courts of Law	8,000
Commissioners of Divisions	60,000
Residences of Local Government	29,000
Public Works Reserve	18,000
[illegible]	[illegible]

Mr. Beatson Bell.

63. *Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 20,77,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 25,79,000, partly for larger augmentation grants to District Boards but chiefly for grants for water-works and sanitation for which provision was made under "Medical." The estimate for 1915-16 amounts to Rs. 22,09,000 and includes the following :—

	Rs.
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	11,50,000
Special grants for feeder roads	40,000
Augmentation grant	7,30,500
Grant for the improvement of roads in Government estates	69,559
Special grants at the disposal of the Divisional Commissioners	1,00,000
Ditto ditto District Magistrates ...	52,000
Lump provision for pay of sub-overseers in connection with rural water-supply	5,000

No provision has been made under this head for grants for works of sanitary improvements which are now being provided for wholly in the Medical budget. The following are the principal items sanctioned or earmarked for the works of sanitary improvements in the year 1914-15 :—

	Rs.
Bhadreswar drainage	1,000
Jessore District Board for improvement of rural water-supply	1,115
Narainganj water-supply	1,00,000
Extension of Munshiganj water-works ...	7,200
Experiments on Calcutta sewage	17,275
For sanitary improvement of the town of Chittagong, and for the pay of the Sanitary Engineer, Chittagong Municipality	20,000
Improvement of Berhampore water-works ...	10,000
Rajbari drainage	2,639
Baruipur drainage	1,950
Hooghly-Chinsurah water-works	50,000
Kushtia drainage	3,450
Cost of employment of Sanitary Inspectors by Municipalities	2,700
English Bazar water-supply	50,000
Bakarganj water-supply	5,000
Construction of a *pucca* drain in North Barrackpore Municipality	1,000
Dacca Municipality for conservancy	7,500
Utterpara water-supply	41,815
To Panihati Municipality for constructing subsidiary drains in connection with the Bagjolla drainage scheme	7,246
To North Dum-Dum Municipality for constructing subsidiary drains in connection with the Bagjolla drainage scheme	10,133
Asansol water-supply	62,000
Contribution towards the pay of the Special officer in charge of the Conservancy Department, Dacca Municipality	840
Sanitary improvement, Gaibandha	8,000
Calcutta Corporation for the drainage of the fringe area	42,017
Chandpur water-supply	60,000
Suri drainage scheme	11,000
Nadia District Board for the preliminary survey in connection with the improvement of the rivers Bagerkhal and Jamuna	600

Receipts	Actuals.			1914-15.	
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance ...	*	1,66,25,000	3,13,30,270	3,04,30,000	3,18,11,000
Principal Heads of Revenue—					
I—Land Revenue	1,57,27,171	1,60,61,624	1,56,99,108	1,61,71,000	1,54,87,000
IV—Stamps	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,09,55,416	1,11,50,000	1,01,00,000
V—Excise	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,015	1,53,88,578	1,58,00,000	1,55,00,000
VI—Provincial Rates	31,71,872	32,02,122	1,31,340	1,38,000	1,10,000
VIII—Assessed Taxes	26,73,534	27,77,826	33,18,958	30,50,000	34,50,000
IX—Forests	13,87,165	16,00,601	16,16,111	16,00,000	13,10,000
X—Registration	17,33,694	18,23,101	20,16,144	20,50,000	18,00,000
Total ...	1,47,94,174	1,95,96,736	4,91,25,655	4,99,39,000	4,77,57,000
XII—Interest	5,22,205	5,00,713	1,29,999	1,87,000	1,67,000
Receipts by Civil Departments—					
XVI—Law and Justice—					
A—Courts of Law	7,60,777	8,14,961	8,42,841	8,95,000	8,62,000
B—Jails	8,31,424	7,05,353	6,71,947	7,23,000	7,31,000
XVII—Police	1,87,675	2,39,082	1,56,684	1,77,000	1,87,000
XVIII—Ports and Pilotage	16,95,556	17,52,191	16,76,604	17,16,000	17,25,000
XIX—Education	7,35,249	7,77,676	8,10,953	8,62,000	8,12,000
XX—Medical	3,62,977	4,26,733	4,20,307	3,97,000	3,75,000
XXI—Agriculture	68,912	79,614	78,756	82,000	78,000
XXIB—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments	1,68,141	1,38,287	1,98,925	1,87,000	2,10,000
Total ...	48,08,711	49,31,867	48,56,987	50,42,000	50,00,000
Miscellaneous—					
XXII—Receipts in aid of Superannuation ...	43,158	48,210	38,886	39,000	42,000
XXIII—Stationery and Printing	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,37,862	1,20,000	1,56,000
XXV—Miscellaneous	6,35,371	7,72,339	7,68,760	5,92,000	6,89,000
Total ...	8,08,954	9,40,652	9,45,508	7,51,000	8,87,000
Irrigation—					
XXIX—Minor Works (direct receipts) ...	1,39,063	1,36,959	1,23,290	1,33,000	1,20,000
XXX—Minor Works and Navigation—					
By Public Works Department ...	3,34,186	3,20,105	2,82,520	3,05,000	2,62,000
By Civil Department ...	25,015	24,925	24,421	25,000	25,000
Total ...	4,98,264	4,81,989	4,30,231	4,63,000	4,07,000
Buildings and Roads—					
XXXI—Civil Works—					
By Public Works Department ...	4,62,320	3,85,036	1,34,258	3,85,000	4,70,000
By Civil Department ...	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,66,034	1,44,000	1,64,000
Total ...	6,17,583	5,27,559	6,00,292	5,29,000	6,34,000
Transfer between Imperial and Provincial Revenues	*	+1,46,73,885	+57,52,800	+57,84,000	+68,59,000
Total Receipts ...	5,20,49,891	7,16,53,401	6,21,41,472	6,29,95,000	6,20,06,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	.....	8,82,78,401	9,34,71,742	9,34,25,000	9,38,17,000

* The Opening Balance and Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues for new Bengal cannot be worked out.

EXPENDITURE.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.
	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate	Budget estimate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ment on the Revenues—	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.
Refunds and Drawbacks	1,35,124	1,41,035	1,35,656	1,35,000	1,64,000	1,41,000
Assignments and Compensations ...	37,647	50,905	27,159	43,000	32,000	42,000
Land Revenue	35,09,257	32,36,128	34,40,770	35,33,000	35,70,000	36,66,000
Stamps	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,61,566	3,76,000	2,76,000	3,03,000
Excise	4,73,795	5,97,677	6,25,743	8,77,000	7,41,000	8,02,000
Provincial Rates	50,187	33,209	.....	.....	.....	.....
Assessed Taxes	78,116	76,469	77,288	75,000	77,000	76,000
Forests	6,74,033	6,60,700	6,40,[illegible]	7,27,000	6,84,000	6,66,000
Registration	10,77,406	10,50,903	11,26,[illegible]8	11,99,000	11,91,000	11,23,000
Total ...	63,68,070	62,09,781	64,31,902	69,65,000	67,00,000	68,19,000
Interest on Ordinary Debt ...	3,10,365	4,12,546	4,39,897	4,54,000	4,40,000	4,40,000
ment Expenses of Civil Departments—						
General Administration	37,35,022	25,46,712	24,29,[illegible]9	25,51,000	24,08,000	23,71,000
Law and Justice { Courts of Law ...	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	1,00,37,517	99,53,000	1,03,04,000	1,01,24,000
Jails ...	20,51,332	19,61,832	22,62,852	20,76,000	22,78,000	21,95,000
Police	87,08,214	83,09,859	91,71,08[illegible]	1,08,98,000	1,03,80,000	1,05,35,000
Ports and Pilotage	13,27,925	12,16,009	14,28,[illegible]77	15,39,000	13,74,000	14,76,000
Education	61,21,873	73,76,829	81,12,[illegible]15	1,15,43,000	86,23,000	1,05,62,000
Medical	26,14,443	26,42,133	28,50,459	37,81,000	30,23,000	36,13,000
Political	22,622	38,976	32,97[illegible]	29,000	28,000	30,000
Agriculture	8,71,154	7,72,137	9,06,776	11,86,000	9,76,000	11,17,000
Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments	6,09,784	8,91,816	5,19,024	6,44,000	4,28,000	5,04,000
Total ..	3,62,07,386	3,54,85,703	3,80,51,391	4,79,02,000	3,99,72,000	4,25,31,000
ges—						
Superannuation Allowances	27,85,637	29,25,688	31,00,288	32,31,000	32,84,000	34,29,000
Stationery and Printing	13,79,021	13,31,129	14,85,406	14,44,000	15,46,000	13,87,000
Miscellaneous	5,60,371	4,25,610	5,87,418	10,81,000	4,48,000	10,16,000
Total ..	49,25,029	46,85,727	51,73,112	57,56,000	52,88,000	58,32,000
ebt and Insurance—						
Reduction or avoidance of Debt ...	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
(Revenue Accounts)—						
Subsidised Companies—Land	.....	363	579	.....	..	.....
Total ..	60,000	59,637	60,579	60,000	60,000	60,000
—						
Major Works—						
Working expenses	1,38,543	1,17,858	1,48,895	1,48,000	1,29,000	1,33,000
Interest on Debt	1,70,650	1,75,618	1,69,993	1,69,000	1,70,000	1,70,000
Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department ...	7,81,399	7,69,113	9,62,229	11,19,000	13,97,000	11,46,000
By Civil Department ...	1,954	965	982	4,000	1,000	1,000
Total ..	10,11,546	10,62,594	12,82,098	14,40,000	16,97,000	14,50,000
and Roads—						
Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department ...	61,51,896	63,21,755	76,14,385	89,59,000	92,00,000	64,88,000
„ Civil Department	30,27,729	26,80,384	25,74,263	20,77,000	25,79,000	22,09,000
Total ...	91,79,625	90,02,139	1,02,18,648	1,10,36,000	1,17,79,000	86,97,000
Total Charges ...	5,83,42,021	5,69,48,131	6,16,60,630	7,35,93,000	6,56,86,000	6,58,29,000
Closing Balance ...		3,13,30,270	3,18,11,112	1,98,32,000	2,81,31,000	2,41,09,000
GRAND TOTAL ...		8,82,78,401	9,34,71,742	9,34,25,000	9,38,17,000	8,99,38,000
ncial surplus (+) or deficit (—) ...	.....	+1,47,05,270	+4,60,842	—1,05,98,000	—36,80,000	—40,22,000

* Please see remarks on the revised figures.

APPENDIX A.

Bengal Provincial Receipts, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those which have been provisionally passed by the Government of India.]

The remarks in column 8 except where otherwise specially explained refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.

1.—Land Revenue—

Heads	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Gross Land Revenue	2,71,72,317	2,79,87,155	2,80,28,537	2,96,64,000	2,84,80,000	2,91,49,000	
Deduct collections from Government estates which are wholly Provincial ...	43,30,589	47,70,855	42,77,344	47,00,000	40,50,000	44,37,000	Decrease in the revised is due to smaller collections owing to the slackness of the jute trade and non-realization of the anticipated collections of suspensions.
Deduct recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary marks wholly Provincial ...	.....	.....	938	2,000	2,000	.....	
Deduct recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges which are wholly Imperial	48,564	6,29,962	9,08,657	20,74,000	15,58,000	17,92,000	Decrease in the revised is attributed to collapse of the jute market in Dacca, Mymensingh and Faridpur and considerable delay in starting recovery work in Midnapore. The collections in 1915-16 are made up thus :—
							Rs.
							Midnapore 3,65,395
							Faridpur 56,658
							Dacca 5,00,000
							Mymensingh 7,00,000
							Rajshahi 3,00,000
							Lump deduction 1,30,053
							Total ... 17,92,000
Recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars	.....	.....	-55	.....	.....	.....	
Total deductions ...	43,79,153	54,09,817	51,86,884	67,76,000	56,10,000	62,29,000	
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial	2,27,93,164	2,25,86,338	2,28,41,653	2,29,38,000	2,28,70,000	2,29,20,000	
Provincial share of above	1,13,96,582	1,12,93,169	1,14,20,826	1,14,69,000	1,14,35,000	1,14,60,000	
Add collections from Government estates	43,30,589	47,70,855	42,77,344	47,00,000	40,50,000	44,37,000	
Recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars	.....	.....	938	2,000	2,000	.....	
Total Provincial ...	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,56,99,108	1,61,71,000	1,54,87,000	1,58,97,000	

Sale of general stamps	58,51,102	63,74,686	67,52,401	71,00,000	55,00,000	55,00,000	Decrease in the revised is due to dislocation of business and trade caused by the war.
Sale of court fee stamps	1,38,74,790	1,38,84,986	1,45,01,549	1,45,50,000	1,41,00,000	1,42,00,000	Decrease in the revised is due to a smaller number of cases being instituted in the courts.
Sale of plain paper to be used with court-fee stamps	3,01,012	3,10,308	3,23,073	3,25,000	3,10,000	3,10,000	
Duty on impressing documents ...	31,812	57,163	2,30,774	2,40,000	2,10,000	2,10,000	
Fines and penalties	34,765	31,923	31,707	33,000	28,000	30,000	
Miscellaneous	21,095	84,787	71,327	52,000	52,000	50,000	
Total ...	2,01,12,576	2,07,43,853	2,19,10,831	2,23,00,000	2,02,00,000	2,03,00,000	
Provincial share ...	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,09,55,416	1,11,50,000	1,01,00,000	1,01,50,000	Revised based on the actuals of eleven months.

V—Excise—

License and distillery fees for the sale of liquors and drugs—							
Foreign liquors	3,63,338	3,44,760	3,05,450	3,04,000	3,00,000	3,80,000	
Indian-made liquors excised at tariff rates	2,53,785	2,41,811	3,44,819	3,00,000	3,50,000	3,50,000	
Country spirits—							
License fees—							
Distillery							
Outstills							
Still-head duty...	61,73,266	64,11,686	69,61,029	76,00,000	68,50,000	67,70,000	The present crisis has affected consumption in the chief jute-growing districts.
Miscellaneous							
Toddy revenue	4,26,401	4,50,393	4,75,017	4,60,000	4,75,000	5,25,000	
Opium and its preparations	8,11,686	8,96,519	12,52,622	12,00,000	14,50,000	19,60,000	Owing to the rise of the treasury price of opium and the duty on ganja and in consequence of the war, a large decrease in consumption is anticipated.
Other drugs, ganja, bhang, etc ...	16,18,373	16,32,491	18,02,202	18,00,000	19,25,000	13,65,000	
Pachwai revenue	7,77,794	8,30,129	8,46,669	8,40,000	9,00,000	9,00,000	
Total ...	1,04,24,643	1,08,67,789	1,19,87,808	1,25,00,000	1,22,50,000	1,13,50,000	
Gain on sale proceeds of excise opium ...	14,61,000	14,79,610	14,90,547	14,85,000	14,30,000	21,10,000	Increase due to raising of the treasury price of opium to Rs. 40 per seer.
Duty on ganja	14,66,420	14,37,379	18,72,630	17,80,000	17,80,000	25,00,000	Increase of duty on ganja from Rs 15 to Rs. 20 per seer.
Fines, confiscations, and miscellaneous ...	36,137	30,267	37,573	35,000	40,000	40,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,33,88,200	1,37,59,045	1,53,88,578	1,58,00,000	1,55,00,000	1,60,00,000	
Provincial share (three-fourths in 1911-12) and whole for 1912-13	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,53,88,578	1,58,00,000	1,55,00,000	1,60,00,000	Revised based on the actuals of ten months.

VI—Provincial Rates—

HEADS.	ACTUALS.			1914-15.		1915-16.	REMARKS.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs	
Public Works Cess ...	30,83,495	30,96,008	.....	.....	.....	.....	The collections are being credited to District Funds.
General rates for the management of private estates	91,377	1,06,144	1,31,340	1,18,000	1,10,000	1,10,000	The fall in the price of jute has reduced the collections from Wards' Estates in 1914-15. The estimate for 1915-16 is calculated at the prescribed rates on the gross estimated income of the estates under management.
Total ...	31,74,872	32,02,152	1,31,340	1,18,000	1,10,000	1,10,000	

VIII—Assessed Taxes—

Deductions by Government from salaries and pensions, etc.	4,98,512	4,86,852	5,04,822	4,95,000	5,20,000	5,10,000	
Deductions by Government from interest on Government securities	24,009	21,192	24,052	23,000	24,000	22,000	
Deductions from salaries, etc., paid by local authorities or companies	88,367	88,660	94,440	90,000	90,000	90,000	
Income-tax on securities of local authorities or companies	1,40,809	1,43,768	1,55,151	1,47,000	1,65,000	1,60,000	
Ordinary collections	45,73,669	47,89,658	58,39,275	53,23,000	60,80,000	53,00,000	Increase in the revised is attributed to the favourable trade conditions of 1913-14, which swelled the profits of some of the coal and jute companies and many of the banks. The prevailing adverse condition of the trade will affect the profits in 1914-15, and will reduce the assessments and collections of 1915-16
Deductions from profits of railway companies	403	.....	.....	.....	1,000	.....	
Penalties	14,194	13,448	11,790	14,000	10,000	10,000	
Miscellaneous	7,105	8,274	8,386	8,000	10,000	8,000	
Total ...	53,47,068	55,51,652	66,37,916	61,01,000	69,00,000	61,00,000	
Provincial share ...	26,73,534	27,75,826	33,18,958	30,50,000	34,50,000	30,50,000	Revised based on ten months' actuals.

IX—Forests—

Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency ..	1,51,372	1,07,835	17,940	4,000	4,000	2,000	
Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers ...	11,84,132	14,41,410	15,34,682	15,50,000	12,50,000	14,00,000	The sales of timber have declined owing to difficulty experienced in 1914-15 in financing the timber trade and to a diminution of the purchasing power of jute cultivators who are large customers of *sal*. The Conservator anticipates a substantial increase in 1915-16, in expectation that arrears in exploitations due to the short demand
Confiscated drift and waif wood ...	5,555	1,836	5,329	2,000	6,000	3,000	
Miscellaneous	46,406	49,520	58,169	44,000	50,000	45,000	

XI—Registration—

Fees for registering documents ...	16,02 137	16,83,575	18,54,426	18,95,000	16,40,000	17,30,000	The fees for the registration of Joint Stock Companies which were credited here in previous years, are now being credited to XXI—B Scientific and Miscellaneous Depts.—Budget allows for normal increase.
Fees for copies of registered documents ...	56,826	63,164	73,930	73,000	75,000	80,000	
Miscellaneous	74,731	76,422	87,788	82,000	85,000	90,000	
Total ...	17,33,694	18,23,161	20,16,144	20,50,000	18,00,000	19,00,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

XII—Interest—

Class I.—Interest on advances to cultivators—							
On advances to cultivators under the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883 ...	18,169	20,958	15,587	62,000	55,000	50,000	Decrease due to smaller advances against larger repayments
On advances to cultivators under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XXII of 1884	63,367	36,469	16,107				
On loans to Co-operative Credit Societies	1,832	1,672	3,449	3,000	3,000	2,000	
Class II.—Interest on advances under Special Laws—							
On advances under the Public Demand and Recovery Act, 1895	.....	.....	.....	.....	... ..	.....	
On drainage and embankment advances ...	6,228	14,735	3,500	14,000	9,000	14,000	Based on the estimated mean balance of Loans account
Class III—Interest on loans to landholders, etc.	2,15,454	1,97,580	1,65,429	1,74,000	1,59,000	1,60,000	
Class IV.—Interest on loans to municipal and other public corporations (excluding Presidency Corporations)	1,88,285	2,00,145	2,01,426	2,20,000	2,09,000	2,90,000	Increase due to provision for larger advances than repayments.
Interest on Government securities ...	13,202	10,545	10,545	11,000	12,000	12,000	
Total ...	5,06,537	4,82,104	4,16,043	4,84,000	4,47,000	5,28,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Interest on arrears of Public Works Cess	14,959	13,361	11,053	...		...	
Other items	410	5,001	2,640	2,500		1,000	
Interest on zamindari embankment recoveries, etc.	299	247	263	500		300	
Total Miscellaneous ...	15,668	18,609	13,956	3,000	15,000	1,300	Increase in the revised is due to realization of interest on arrears of Public Works Cess
Rounding ...	...	...	...	...	...	—300	
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,22,205	5,00,713	4,29,999	4,87,000	4,62,000	5,29,000	

XVIA—Law and Justice—Courts of Law—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Sale-proceeds of unclaimed and escheated property	26,152	28,892	27,509	30,000	27,000	30,000	
Court-fees realized in cash	56,187	64,124	63,893	74,000	59,000	62,000	
General fees, fines, and forfeitures ...	6,07,679	6,55,040	6,89,369	7,25,000	7,15,000	7,55,000	
Pleadership Examination fees ...	37,990	32,385	29,683	32,000	31,000	34,000	
Miscellaneous fees and fines	5,911	5,855	4,898	6,000	3,000	4,000	
Miscellaneous	26,858	28,605	27,459	28,000	27,000	28,000	
Total ...	7,60,777	8,14,901	8,42,811	8,95,000	8,62,000	9,13,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

XVIB—Jails—

Jails	9,287	1,356	839	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Jail manufactures	8,22,137	7,01,997	6,71,108	7,22,000	7,30,000	7,59,000	The sale-proceeds of pice-packets of quinine were hitherto credited to the head Jails and Cinchona Department in proportion of 1 : 4, which has been changed to 2 : 3 from 1914-15. The sale-proceeds of quinine treatments which were credited to the head Medical, are also being credited to this head and to the Cinchona Department in the same proportion. This explains the increase from 1914-15.
Total ...	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,71,947	7,23,000	7,31,000	7,60,000	

XVII—Police—

Cash receipts under the Arms Act ...	1,018	937	777	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Police supplied to public departments, private companies, and persons	69,816	1,13,200	14,861	20,000	25,000	18,000	
Presidency police	79,769	89,566	1,08,456	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,33,000	Increase due to larger receipts expected from the Motor Cycle Act.
Recoveries on account of village police ...	308	383	267	300	... ..	300	
Fees, fines, and forfeitures	14,153	16,880	15,332	17,000	17,000	14,600	
Miscellaneous	22,611	18,116	16,989	19,000	24,000	19,000	
Superannuation receipts	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—300	.....	+100	
Total ...	1,87,675	2,39,082	1,56,684	1,77,000	1,87,000	1,86,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first eight months.

Sale proceeds of vessels and stores ...	831	1,578	943	.....	1,000	1,000	
Registration and other fees { Calcutta ..	86,964	91,486	96,323	94,000	94,000	98,000	
{ Chittagong ...	1,939	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Pilotage receipts, Calcutta	14,63,455	15,22,201	14,55,086	15,00,000	12,74,000	13,20,000	Decrease in the revised is due to dislocation of trade caused by the war. Budget framed in view of the adverse trade conditions which might continue in 1915-16.
Lead-money for volunteers	12,545	11,472	8,736	12,000	6,000	9,000	
Miscellaneous	1,29,822	1,25,451	1,15,516	1,10,000	1,50,000	1,92,000	Revised includes Rs 36,000, being the anticipated receipts for the loan of the steamer *Guide* to the Government of India for station duty at Port Blair. Budget includes Rs. 72,000 on the same account.
Total .	16,95,556	17,52,191	16,76,604	17,16,000	15,25,000	16,20,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

XIX—Education—

Fees, Government Colleges—							
General	2,89,131	3,00,593	3,07,447	3,32,000	3,06,000	3,22,000	
Professional	46,074	49,713	61,468	56,000	67,000	63,000	Revised and Budget based on the actuals of 1913-14.
Fees, Government Schools							
General	3,21,797	3,45,875	3,62,836	3,74,000	3,75,000	4,06,000	Budget includes Rs 24,000 for fees of the Residential school for Indian boys at Hastings House, Calcutta.
Special	13,642	15,009	14,071	31,000	13,000	31,000	Budget includes Rs. 16,000 on account of fees and fines from Madrassas which were hitherto credited to the Mohsin Fund.
Contributions from Native States, private persons, and municipalities	5,126	14,667	13,609	12,000	14,000	16,000	
Income from endowments	3,778	111	.....	100	.....	100	
Miscellaneous	53,701	54,708	51,522	57,000	43,000	47,900	
For rounding ...	... ..	.....	.....	—100	.....	.....	
Total ...	7,33,249	7,77,676	8,10,953	8,62,000	8,12,000	8,86,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals. Budget for 1914-15 was too high.

XX—Medical—

Medical School and College fees ...	73,306	86,743	96,578	96,000	1,00,000	1,06,000	Budget based with reference to the growing receipts.
Hospital receipts (receipts from paying patients)	1,61,887	1,55,537	1,62,630	1,53,000	1,70,000	1,70,000	Based on actuals.
Lunatic Asylum receipts	25,961	26,108	22,919	28,000	21,000	23,000	
Contributions (from municipalities private persons)	56,389	1,05,181	57,599	56,000	56,000	56,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included a special contribution of Rs 50,000 from the Indian Research fund for jungle clearing in malarial districts.
Medicines sold by Civil Surgeons ..	26,167	37,293	62,864	54,000	6,000	7,000	The sale proceeds of patent treatments sold through the agency of Civil Surgeons, which were credited here are now adjusted under Jails and Cinchona Departments in the proportion of 2 3 and hence the decrease from 1914-15.
Miscellaneous	20,167	15,871	17,717	14,000	22,000	18,000	
Total ...	3,62,977	4,26,733	4,20,307	3,97,000	3,75,000	3,80,000	Revised based on nine months actuals.

XXIA—Agriculture.

Heads	Actuals. 1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15. Sanctioned estimate.	1914-15. Revised estimate.	1915-16. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	
Botanical Garden Receipts			597	100		800	
Birch Hill Park at Darjeeling and Lebong Forest	2,311	3,871	2,130	1,900		1,800	
Other Government gardens			456	200	50,000	400	
Miscellaneous			96	100		100	
Receipts on account of experimental cultivation	32,830	42,515	44,474	50,000		46,900	
Receipts from public exhibitions and fairs ...	.....	.....	33	.....	.....	.....	
Veterinary receipts	33,771	33,258	30,970	33,000	28,000	32,000	
Deduct—For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	−300	.....	.....	
Total ...	68,912	79,644	78,756	85,000	78,000	82,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXIB—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments—

Scientific—							
Cinchona Plantations	1,26,653	90,509	1,70,959	1,50,000	3,71,000	3,00,000	The 3ths of the sale-proceeds of pice-packets of quinine and 3ths of the sale-proceeds of quinine treatments are credited to this head from 1914-15. Increase in the revised occurs in the sale of quinine of which a large stock was accumulated in 1912-13.
Labour and Emigration—							
Emigration fees	25,695	24,630	17,280	23,000	11,000	8,000	
Inland labour transport fees ...	10,454	8,396	8,238	9,000	5,000	4,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Examination fees	−28	25	237	100	1,000	600	
Miscellaneous	5,367	5,727	2,220	4,500	42,000	40,000	The fees from the registration of Joint Stock Companies which were hitherto credited under Registration are now credited here from 1914-15.
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+300	.....	+400	
Total ..	1,68,141	1,38,287	1,98,925	1,87,000	4,30,000	3,53,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

Contributions for pensions and gratuities—							
Contributions of officers lent to foreign service of the first and second kinds	26,779	26,451	20,453	19,000	22,000	21,000	
Contributions of persons employed for the management of private estates under Act X of 1892	1,601	1,469	1,096	1,600	2,000	1,500	}
Annuity deductions of Covenanted Civilians lent to Native States, etc., for short terms	2,432	4,663	3,282	3,300	3,800	3,200	} Based on actuals.
Refund of gratuities	60	72	.....	100	.....	100	}
Deductions for Pilotage Pension Fund ...	12,286	15,564	14,055	15,000	14,200	14,000	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+200	
Total ...	43,158	48,219	38,886	39,000	42,000	40,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

XXIII—Stationery and Printing—

Stationery receipts	2,535	2,799	1,001	2,000	1,500	1,000	} Based on actuals
Sale of Gazettes and other publications ...	85,907	88,111	95,236	89,800	88,000	90,000	
Other Press receipts	41,983	29,193	41,625	28,200	66,500	41,000	Increase in the revised is from the sale of waste paper and unserviceable materials from the Dacca Jail Press on its removal to Goya
Total ..	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,37,862	1,20,000	1,56,000	1,32,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first eight months.

XXV—Miscellaneous—

Percentage on capital furniture ..	30	.....	.. ..	.....	... ..	.....	
Recovery on account of famine expenditure	.....	1	..	... ..	.....	.....	
Unclaimed deposits	5,22,773	6,38,027	6,31,162	4,80,000	5,55,000	5,80,000	This is an uncertain head. Revised based on the deposits likely to lapse at the close of the year. Budget based on the average of three years ending 1913-14.
Treasure-trove	139	500	.....	.....	... ..	.....	
Sale-proceeds of Durbar presents ...	12,435	7,225	10,293	7,000	5,000	7,000	
Sale of old stores and materials ...	1,353	1,727	8,420	3,000	5,000	2,000	
Sale of lands and houses, etc. ...	208	2,742	13,767	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Fees for Government audits	19,503	15,392	23,576	27,000	28,000	18,000	Increase in the revised is for fees expected to be realized in 1914-15 on account of audits completed in previous year. Budget excludes the arrears included in the revised.
Rents	14,656	14,900	16,923	14,000	15,000	15,000	
Miscellaneous fees fines, and forfeitures ...	2,639	7,058	2,961	3,000	7,000	5,000	
Contributions	770	702	... ..	1,000	.....	500	
	5,74,486	6,88,313	6,77,170	5,37,000	6,17,000	6,29,500	

XXV—Miscellaneous—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15		1915-16.	Remarks
	1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Miscellaneous—							
Fees and fines of revenue courts ...	21,908	27,194	22,227	24,000	20,000	22,000	
Recoveries of law charges other than those in pauper suits	12,104	40,791	15,062	12,000	18,000	15,000	
Value of mathematical stores returned ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sundry receipts—Circuit-house ...	368	299	342	400	700	400	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of Public Works Cess under Act IX (B.C.) of 1880	521	704	442	.....	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of the management of Wards' estates ...	34	107	2,970	100	300	100	
Sale-proceeds of trees on tea lands ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sale of elephants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Other items	19,290	10,754	50,547	16,500	33,000	22,500	
Steamer receipts, Chittagong ...	6,660	4,177	.....	2,000	.....	.....	
Total Miscellaneous ...	60,885	84,026	91,590	55,000	72,000	60,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+500	
Grand Total ...	6,35,371	7,72,339	7,68,760	5,92,000	6,89,000	6,90,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

XXIX—Irrigation—Major Works—(Direct Receipts)—

Midnapore Canal	2,15,470	2,20,782	2,10,152	2,13,500	2,09,000	2,03,000	Decrease both in the revised and the Budget due to smaller exports of rice.
Hijili Tidal Canal	62,657	53,136	36,427	53,500	31,000	37,000	Decrease in the revised is due to the restricted traffic on account of the silted-up condition of the canal.
Total ...	2,78,127	2,73,918	2,46,579	2,67,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals with allowance for decrease in the last four months

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT						
Recoveries on account of lands benefited by embankments	50,031	49,850	48,842	50,000	50,000	50,000	Represent receipts in Midnapore under the Contract system for the repairs of zamindari embankment. The estimate is based on actual demands.
Provincial share ...	25,015	24,925	24,421	25,000	25,000	25,000	
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT						
(Irrigation and Navigation Works)						
Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept—						
Orissa Coast Canal	8,397	16,346	11,484	17,000	14,000	14,000	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals ...	4,35,776	4,21,508	3,76,032	3,75,000	3,53,000	3,63,000	Decrease in the revised is due to stoppage of jute traffic.
Madaripur Bhil scheme	1,23,706	1,03,225	89,332	92,000	54,000	60,000	Decrease in the revised is due to smaller receipts from tollage on steamers
Total ...	5,67,879	5,41,479	4,76,848	4,84,000	4,21,000	4,37,000	
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—						
Nadia rivers	33,507	28,986	24,832	25,000	18,000	18,000	
Gaighatta and Buxi Ghats ...	3,675	3,675	4,244	4,000	4,000	4,000	
Total ...	37,182	32,661	29,076	30,000	22,000	22,000	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—						
Eden Canal	31,978	36,531	32,803	37,000	24,000	34,000	Revised reduced on account of anticipated remission under water-rates
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works	6,37,039	6,10,671	5,38,727	5,51,000	4,67,000	4,93,000	

XXX—Minor Works and Navigation—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(Agricultural Works.)	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—							
Magra Hât drainage project ...	1,403	2,480	4,277	34,000	34,000	54,000	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—							
Government embankments ...	29,930	27,059	22,036	25,000	23,000	23,000	
Takavi embankments under contract ...							
Total Agricultural Works ...	31,333	29,539	26,313	59,000	57,000	77,000	
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	6,68,372	6,40,210	5,65,040	6,10,000	5,24,000	5,70,000	
Provincial share ...	3,34,186	3,20,105	2,82,520	3,05,000	2,62,000	2,85,000	

XXXI—Civil Works—

In charge of the Civil Department							
Tolls on ferries	1,43,603	1,33,829	1,54,595	1,33,000	1,52,000	1,44,000	Increase in the revised is due to resettlement of Government ferries at higher rent.
Cemetery receipts	1,122	1,191	1,495	1,400	2,000	1,800	
Receipts from staging bungalows and encamping grounds	7,159	3,905	5,714	5,000	6,000	6,400	
Miscellaneous	3,379	3,598	4,230	4,500	4,000	4,500	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+100	.....	+300	
Total in charge of the Civil Department	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,66,034	1,44,000	1,64,000	1,57,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.
In charge of the Public Works Department.							
Total gross receipts ...	4,68,320	3,85,036	4,31,258	3,85,000	.....	.....	

From Provincial to Imperial.						
Fixed assignment under the Provincial Settlement	7,28,000	7,28,000	7,28,000	7,28,000	7,28,000	
For repairs to Nizamat Palace, Murshidabad	.....	40,000	... ..	.....	.....	
For Law charges on account of Bihar and Orissa	.....	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
For Collegiate and University expenditure in Bihar and Orissa	.....	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	
For premises No. 9, Hare Street ...	.....	.....	.....	9,000	9,000	The house No. 9, Hare Street, has been transferred to the Local Government. The rent of the house is credited to Provincial Civil Works, while the net receipts (rents—charges for repairs) are given over to the Imperial Government
For making certain alterations to the buildings of the Calcutta Museum for delivery of popular lectures	.....	2,454	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	7,28,000	8,06,454	7,64,000	7,73,000	7,73,000	
From Imperial to Provincial						
Assignment in connection with further scientific researches by Dr. J. C. Bose ...	.....	.....	9,000	9,000	9,000	Sanctioned for three years from 1914-15.
For Famine Relief scheme	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	Sanctioned for 60 years.
Recurring grant for popular education ...	9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	
Recurring grant for aided English Secondary Schools	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Further recurring grant for education ...	.....	.....	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Recurring grant for education of domiciled community	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Contribution for a grant to the C M S College, Calcutta	.....	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	
For Improvement of Female education ...	.....	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
Contribution for maintenance of Traffic Registration Office, Bhairab Bazar ...	.....	.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Contribution for Royal Bonus	1,227	... ..	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of Hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca ...	4,00,000	.....	... ...	.....	.....	
Grant for the development of University works, Calcutta	4,00,000	... ...	.....	.....	.....	
Ditto (recurring)	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	
Assignment for Belgachia Veterinary College	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
Ditto recovery of the cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court fees Act ...	6,440	6,440	6,000	6,000	6,000	
Grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art section of the Indian Museum with the School of Art ...	1,190	1,190	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Provincialization of expenditure on account of salaries of officers of the Civil Veterinary Department	.....	.....	.....	29,000	29,000	
Assignment for purchase of copies of Indian Household Reference Chart and the Indian Household Emergency Chart	.....	.....	.....	2,000	.....	

Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues—concluded.

HEADS.	ACTUALS.			1914-15.		1915-16.	REMARKS.
	1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
From Imperial to Provincial—concluded.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
For remission of recoveries from local bodies		.....	.....	26,000	26,000	26,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostel buildings in Calcutta		10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University ...		10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto ditto ...		45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa towards pay of electrical staff utilized by it ...		7,572	7,572	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Pensions of title-holders		2,700	2,700	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry and that of Captain Shingleton Smith		17,256	46,352	25,000	35,000	35,000	
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers to be employed in municipalities		39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	
Grant for Indian Deputy Sanitary Commissioners		.....	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	
Cost of supply of forms and printing work done for Bihar and Orissa Government ...		2,32,000	2,00,000	2,32,000	2,15,000	.....	The Bihar Government will print their own forms, etc., in Gaya Jail Press from 1915-16.
Cost of supplying forms to Assam Administration		1,29,500	89,000	1,29,000	94,000	1,05,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with fishery experiments ...		.....	.....	11,000	.....	9,000	
Non-recurring assignment for sanitation ...		20,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto		.....	5,00,000	5,00,000	5,00,000	5,00,000	
Assignment for the Chittagong port ...		.....	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	Sanctioned by the Government of India for five years on the understanding that the Local Government would pay a similar grant to the Chittagong Port from the Provincial Revenues.
For adjustment of recovery claims on freights on stores from England in the office of the Agent for Government Consignments		.....	.....	.....	6,000	11,000	
Non-recurring assignment for discretionary grants		12,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for Agriculture and allied objects ...		.....	1,50,000	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for Medical relief		.....	1,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring assignment in connection with the remission of appropriations from cesses ...		.....	24,93,000	24,93,000	24,93,000	24,93,000	
Non-recurring assignment for education ...		75,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Further recurring grant for education ...		.....	13,20,000	13,20,000	13,20,000	13,20,000	
Further grant for Dacca University ...		.....	.....	.....	1,00,000	1,00,000	Sanctioned by the Government of India for five years from 1914-15.
Grant to the Calcutta University for hostels		.....	.....	.....	10,00,000	.....	
Total Transfers from Imperial to Provincial		1,54,01,885	65,59,254	65,48,000	76,32,000	64,40,000	
Net Total ...		1,46,73,885	57,52,800	57,84,000	68,59,000	56,67,000	

APPENDIX B.

Bengal Provincial Expenditure, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those which have been provisionally passed by the Government of India.]

[The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.]

1.—Refunds and Drawbacks—

Heads	Actuals			1914-15		1915-16.	Remarks
	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate	Budget estimate	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	
Land Revenue	39,012	21,090	20,115	25,000	17,000	24,000	The actuals of 1911-12 included a special payment of Rs. 6,500 for an erroneous credit given in 1910-11 for cost of maps.
Stamps	89,636	94,552	79,837	87,000	90,000	85,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included a special payment of Rs. 8,000.
Excise	4,510	13,594	16,843	10,000	34,000	16,000	Revised includes a special refund of license fees of Rs. 12,000 in Darjeeling.
Assessed Taxes	8,194	8,367	8,654	8,000	17,000	8,000	Revised includes a special payment of Rs. 8,000 to a Russian Trading Company.
Forest	5,704	1,274	4,380	1,000	3,000	4,000	
Provincial Rates	1,692	747	2,840	.....	1,000	.....	
Registration	6,376	4,501	2,989	4,000	3,000	4,000	
Total ...	155,124	144,035	135,656	135,000	164,000	141,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals. The estimate is based on the average of last 3 years' actuals excluding special payments.

2.—Assignments and Compensations—

Land Revenue Compensation	7,500	.....	133	6	200	6	
Pension in lieu of resumed lands ...	854	927	706	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Malikana	29,293	49,978	26,320	42,000	30,800	41,500	This is a very fluctuating head. The actuals of 1912-13 included arrear payments.
Excise Compensation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—6	.....	—506	
Total ...	37,647	50,905	27,159	43,000	32,000	42,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals. Budget provides for actual claims.

3.—Land Revenue—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Charges of District Administration—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
General Establishment	24,65,220	23,96,938	24,86,175	25,24,000	26,70,000	26,75,000	Increase in revised is for salaries of officers recalled from leave
Subdivisional Establishment	1 62,078	1,59,479	1,67,515	1,45,000	1,69,000	1,48,000	
Partition Establishment	—11,197	—23,624	—19,274	—13,000	—20,000	—15,000	
Record-room (or copy-making) Establishment	23,529	17,790	17,943	19,000	20,000	20,000	
Survey of waste-lands	1,587	8,136	1,465	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Management of private estates under Act X of 1892	26,864	22,729	23,832	24,000	24,000	23,000	
Collector's Road Cess Establishment ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	—5,000	—5,000	
Total ...	26,68,081	25,81,448	26,77,656	27,01,000	28,60,000	28,48,000	
Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	11,670	13,280	17,348	10,000	17,000	24,000	The charges are gradually rising.
Charges on account of Fishery collections ...	2,667	250	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Management of Government Estates—							
Collection of revenue	3,32,110	2,77,208	2,88,093	3,19,000	3,14,000	3,35,000	
Outlay on improvements	2,08,709	1,62,571	1,50,822	2,49,000	1,44,000	1,93,000	Decrease in revised is for smaller expenditure on improvements.
Total ...	5,40,819	4,39,779	4,38,915	5,68,000	4,58,000	5,28,000	The estimate is generally based on the estimate of collections from Government estates with special additions according to requirements.
Survey and Settlement—							
Controlling Office (survey)	3,591	—224	88	.....	.....	.....	
Other survey operations—							
Bengal Drawing Office	27,712	8,696	52,378	52,164	36,000	59,934	
Other operations	24,827	45,776	1,32,936	96,998	81,000	77,411	
Minor settlement operations	59,287	49,545	74,471	.....	.....	.....	
Other ditto	51,960	32,084	—16,008	63,771	64,000	63,437	
Regrant of savings in the allotment for stationery	.....	.....	.....	67	.....	1,393	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—2,175	
Total ...	1,67,377	1,35,877	2,43,865	2,13,000	1,81,000	2,00,000	

Land Records—						
Superintendence	80,618	41,985	37,790	11,000	34,000	37,000
District charges	38,025	23,509	25,201	30,000	25,000	29,000
Total ...	1,18,643	65,494	62,991	41,000	59,000	66,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	35,09,257	32,36,128	34,40,775	35,33,000	35,75,000	36,66,000

Increase in Budget is due to the provision of Rs. 4,032 for salary of a Special Officer for revising the Survey and Settlement Manual and for a provision of Rs. 1,200 for local allowance of the Personal Assistant of the Director. Budget also provides for smaller recoveries from Survey and Settlement operations

6.—*Stamps*—

Superintendence—						
District Establishment	25,579	28,133	26,802	30,000	29,000	29,000
Charges for the sale of general stamps—						
Discount on sale of bills-of-exchange or hundies	5,773	6,323	7,229	9,000		7,000
Discount on sale of other general stamps	1,80,510	2,03,659	2,26,742	2,26,000		2,25,000
Total ...	1,86,283	2,09,982	2,33,971	2,35,000	1,80,000	2,32,000
Charges on sale of court-fee stamps—						
Discount on sale of adhesive stamps ...	1,03,214	1,03,350	1,05,997	1,08,000		1,04,000
Discount on sale of stamps for copies	9,124	6,117	7,480	8,500		8,500
Establishment for sale of stamps ...	1,362	1,033	1,023	1,494		1,494
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	6		+6
Total ...	1,13,700	1,10,500	1,14,500	1,18,000	1,12,000	1,14,000
Discount on plain paper	18,523	18,309	20,323	19,000	20,000	20,000
Stamp paper supplied from Central Stores	2,99,928	3,40,446	3,27,536	3,50,000	2,00,000	2,10,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,45,013	7,07,373	7,23,132	7,52,000	5,51,000	6,05,000
Provincial share ...	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,61,566	3,76,000	2,76,000	3,03,000

Revised based on 8 months' actuals.

Under the terms of the new agreement with the contractor for the supply of stamp paper, the prices of some items have been reduced by about 50 per cent. and the cost of demy paper has also been reduced. Revised based on the supplies made during the first 6 months of 1914-15.

7.—*Excise*—

Superintendence	1,02,928	80,416	1,01,530	1,03,000	1,04,000	1,03,000
Presidency Establishment—						
Calcutta Collectorate (office) ...	41,866	48,494	46,626	45,888	46,500	46,320
Inspection and Prevention ...	25,509	22,409	22,725	21,204	24,600	21,804
Allowances and Contingencies ...	26,780	28,322	25,369	28,391	25,900	27,241
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—483	.....	—365
Total ...	94,155	99,225	94,720	95,000	97,000	95,000

7.—*Excise*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks
	1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
District Executive Establishment—							
Sadar Establishment	73,687	73,897	76,255	2,21,601	1,13,000	2,22,051	Decrease in revised is for partial utilization of the lump provision for reorganization of the department. Budget includes Rs 1,50,000 for reorganization.
Inspection and Prevention ...	1,37,329	1,36,035	1,32,907	1,36,341	1,36,000	1,37,649	
Allowances, etc.	90,690	87,553	98,383	93,538	1,01,000	93,333	
Bonus	5,353	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—480	.....	—33	
Total ...	3,07,059	2,97,538	3,07,545	4,51,000	3,50,000	4,53,000	
Distilleries—							
Presidency Establishment	13,869	13,690	11,335	13,000	12,500	13,000	
District Establishment	1,12,735	1,06,788	1,10,613	2,15,000	1,77,500	1,38,000	Decrease in revised is for savings in the grant for the construction of steam launches.
Bonus	978	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Grand Total ..	6,31,724	5,97,657	6,25,743	8,77,000	7,41,000	8,02,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,25,743	8,77,000	7,41,000	8,02,000	

8.—*Provincial Rates*—

Collection of rates and cesses	81,984	62,050	62,898	63,000	.....	.....	The expenditure is being debited to the head "3—Land Revenue—Charges for district Administration" in the first instance and ultimately recovered from the District Boards, the recoveries including pension contributions taken in reduction of expenditure under that head.
Valuation and revaluation	92,302	84,320	91,104	1,26,000	.....	.....	
Bonus	.....	245	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	1,74,286	1,46,615	1,54,002	1,89,000	.....	.....	
Deduct—							
Proportion debitable to Local for cost of road-cess collection	1,18,019						
Proportion debitable to Local for revaluation		1,07,406	1,54,002	1,89,000	.....	.....	
One-third share of recoveries on account of collection of arrear cesses ...	566						
Contribution for pension of the Cess. collecting Establishment ...	5,514						
	1,24,099	1,07,406	1,54,002	1,89,000	.....	.....	
Total ...	50,187	39,209	.....	.....	.....	.....	

10.—Assessed Taxes—						
Calcutta Establishment	91,286	91,378	91,734	87,000	91,500	88,000	Increase in revised is due to higher grade pay of the Deputy Collector, Calcutta, and to the payment of leave allowances of Assessors.
District ditto	63,465	61,559	62,843	64,000	62,500	64,000	
Bonus	1,482	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	1,56,233	1,52,937	1,54,577	1,51,000	1,54,000	1,52,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals. Budget provides for sanctioned scale of establishment.
Provincial share ...	78,116	76,469	77,288	75,000	77,000	76,000	
11.—Forests —						
A.—Conservancy and Works						
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency	63,876	36,767	195	1,200	200	700	
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers and purchasers	1,02,604	1,12,100	1,15,613	1,32,650	1,17,000	1,31,650	Decrease in revised is due to the lapse of the provision for new boilers of the launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey*. Budget provides for the renewal of the boilers.
III.—Confiscated drift and waif wood ...	2,457	1,370	667	1,200	1,000	1,000	
V.—Rent of leased forests and payment to shareholders in forests managed by Government	.....	1,096	300	1,500	800	1,000	
VI.—Live-stock, stores, tools and plant ...	42,046	18,192	7,465	32,500	29,000	14,200	No provision has been made for the purchase of elephants
VII.—Communications and Buildings ...	78,375	1,14,704	1,03,631	1,32,900	1,24,000	96,150	Budget excludes special expenditure.
VIII.—Demarcation, improvement and extension of forests	35,445	44,545	49,699	74,950	63,000	64,000	
IX.—Miscellaneous	4,421	3,309	3,784	4,450	5,000	5,000	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	−350	.....	+200	
Total A.—Conservancy and Works ...	3,29,184	3,32,083	3,01,514	3,77,000	3,40,200	3,13,000	
B.—Establishment						
I.—Salaries	2,61,276	2,49,895	2,53,097	2,64,000	2,56,000	2,70,000	Increase in Budget is due to anticipated return to duty of senior officers and to increments under the time scale of pay.
II.—Allowances	62,962	64,878	70,192	71,000	73,000	70,500	
III.—Contingencies	13,611	13,938	14,454	15,144	15,000	14,883	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	−144	.....	+617	
Total B.—Establishment ...	3,44,849	3,28,711	3,38,643	3,50,000	3,44,000	3,56,000	
Total A and B ...	6,74,033	6,60,794	6,40,157	7,27,000	6,84,000	6,66,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals

12.—Registration—

HEADS.	ACTUALS.			1914-15.		1915-16.	REMARKS.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence	81,370	70,135	79,069	75,000	75,000	73,000	
District Charges—							
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies ...	.....	.....	.....	21,900	.....	.....	The charges under this head are now adjusted under "26 B—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments."
Calcutta	29,367	30,756	32,881	28,000	29,000	26,000	
District Sub-Registrars	9,53,282	9,49,109	10,13,825	10,73,100	10,46,000	10,23,000	Decrease in revised is due to non-utilization of lump provision for reorganization of establishment of District Officers. Budget also does not provide for this.
Sub-Registrars							
Ex-officio Sub-Registrars	3,387	903	783	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Total District Charges ...	9,86,036	9,80,768	10,47,489	11,24,000	10,76,000	10,50,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,67,406	10,50,903	11,26,558	11,99,000	11,51,000	11,23,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first eight months.

13.—Interest on Ordinary Debt—

Interest on Provincial Advance and Loan Account	5,10,365	4,42,546	4,39,897	4,34,000	4,40,000	4,40,000	Both the revised and the Budget are based on the estimated mean outstanding balances of loans

18.—General Administration—

Salary of the Governor	1,40,791	1,29,096	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,20,000	
Staff and household of the Governor ...	1,55,692	4,22,279	3,06,916	3,28,000	3,86,000	3,60,000	Revised includes cost of offices of the Private and the Military Secretaries to Governor and to the debit here of the tour and hill journey charges formerly shown under tour charges.
Tour and establishment grant	85,338	1,48,628	1,25,885	1,00,000	73,000	73,000	The new contract grant sanctioned by the Secretary of State
Delhi Coronation Durbar	11,35,299	22,146	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Tour expenses	11,128	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Legislative Department	1,10,472	1,03,961	1,46,576	1,28,000	1,32,000	1,33,000	
Civil Secretariat	9,52,827	7,61,442	7,94,853	8,06,000	8,42,000	8,22,000	Revised includes salaries of officers on special duties Budget includes higher salary of the Chief Secretary and charges for increased establishment in the Education and Commerce branches owing to increase of work.
Executive Council	1,85,600	2,15,680	2,25,735	2,15,000	2,22,000	2,19,000	
Board of Revenue	3,88,450	2,47,992	2,04,400	1,44,000	1,29,000	1,36,000	Budget includes Rs. 2,500 for revision of establishment and arrear pay of Miss Sorabjee which will not be drawn in 1914-15
Commissioners	4,41,381	3,93,518	4,08,974	4,04,000	3,98,000	4,04,000	
Civil offices of Account and Audit ...	1,08,925	1,01,970	96,420	1,08,000	1,06,000	1,07,000	
Inspector-General of Stamps, Excise and Registration	19,119	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	37,35,022	25,46,712	24,29,759	23,53,000	24,08,000	23,74,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

19A—Courts of Law—

HEADS.	ACTUALS			1914-15.		1915-16.	REMARKS.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
High Court—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Judges	7,67,667	9,19,575	9,28,928	9,90,000	9,33,000	9,40,000	Decrease in revised is due to non-employment of the full number of Judges. The additional fifth Judge has not been provided for in 1915-16.
Original Side	3,20,130	3,19,711	3,28,899	3,38,000	3,11,000	3,31,000	Decrease in revised is owing to the appointment of Registrar of Insolvency being vacant.
Appellate Side	3,24,135	3,94,438	4,07,344	4,35,000	4,19,000	4,29,000	Decrease in revised is due to the Inspector of Judicial offices being on leave out of India.
Copyists' Establishment	51,850	... ..	. ....	.....	.....	.....	
Reporters	24,876	24,878	24,883	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Bonus	4,595	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	14,93,253	16,58,610	16,90,054	17,88,000	16,88,000	17,25,000	
Law Officers—							
English Law Officers	1,31,378	1,29,837	1,31,739	1,33,000	1,30,000	1,33,000	
Legal Remembrancer and High Court Pleaders	8,91,946	5,89,666	3,99,690	3,82,000	3,31,000	3,82,000	Decrease in the revised is for smaller payment of fees to Pleaders in Calcutta.
Mufassal Establishment	3,96,536	2,60,137	4,61,414	2,91,000	5,64,000	3,26,000	Increase in the revised is due to large payment of Pleader's fees in connection with several political cases.
Bonus	273	—84	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	14,20,133	9,79,556	9,92,843	8,06,000	10,25,000	8,41,000	
Coroner's Court	7,795	7,307	7,913	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Presidency Magistrates—							
Calcutta Police Court	1,24,218	1,19,731	1,35,561	1,33,000	1,37,500	1,44,000	Increase is due to the separation of the Police Courts into three places and consequent increase under "Rates and Taxes and Contingencies."
Municipal Magistrate's Court ...	10,517	7,971	4,396	8,000	8,500	8,000	
Court for juvenile offenders and house of detention	.....	.....	.. ...	18,000	9,000	10,000	
Bonus	647	8	.....	.....	.....	.. ...	

19A—Courts of Law—concluded.

Civil and Sessions Courts—							
District and Sessions Judges	...	10,86,951	10,74,868	11,00,570	11,11,000	11,18,000	11,01,000	
Subordinate Judges ...	...	4,52,513	4,41,166	4,77,176	5,17,086	5,42,000	5,17,250	Increase in the revised is for arrear payments on account of revision of the Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned towards the close of last year.
Mufassal Small Cause Courts	...	24,683	17,756	18,364	16,728	18,400	17,328	
Munsifs	...	15,96,143	15,48,738	16,12,638	15,90,060	16,33,000	15,80,250	Ditto ditto.
Allowances	...	55,917	42,461	54,892	35,440	56,100	37,000	Increase in the revised is for payment of grain allowance for which provision was made under "32—Miscellaneous"
Supplies and Services ...	...	4,60,608	4,55,719	4,85,216	5,06,424	4,76,500	4,90,705	
Contingencies	...	1,49,877	1,64,614	1,75,382	1,62,070	1,60,000	1,54,534	
Process serving Establishment	...	7,63,373	7,30,720	7,81,543	7,74,864	7,70,000	7,51,644	
Bonus	...	57,537	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Rounding ...	...	.....	.....	.....	+328	.....	—111	
Total	...	46,47,602	44,76,042	47,05,781	47,14,000	47,74,000	46,49,000	
Presidency Court of Small Causes	...	1,65,836	1,61,324	1,91,373	1,96,000	1,92,000	1,96,000	
Criminal Courts—							
General Establishment ...	...	20,33,495	19,82,411	20,48,302	21,66,000	21,94,000	22,08,000	Increase in the revised is for the appointment of Sub-Deputy Collectors as Circle Officers and recall of officers from leave
Subdivisional Establishment ...	...	1,62,079	1,59,479	1,67,515	1,45,000	1,69,000	1,48,000	
Revision of chowkidari panchayats	...	2,956	2,356	6,284	52,000	4,000	71,900	Provision has been made for the pay of Sub-Deputy Collectors as Circle Officers, but it is adjusted under General Establishment
Police Case Hospitals ...	...	.....	.....	.....	5,000	3,000	5,000	
Rewards	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,000	Includes Rs. 6,360 for Arms Act cases and Rs. 2,000 for the arrest of armed and unarmed dacoits
For rounding ...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+100	
Total	...	21,98,530	21,44,246	22,22,101	22,68,000	23,70,000	24,42,000	
Pleadership Examination charges	...	17,231	16,979	16,952	20,000	17,000	21,000	
Refunds	...	58,958	67,623	70,573	64,000	75,000	80,000	
Lump deduction	...	.....	.....	.....	—70,000	.....	.....	
Total	...	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	1,00,37,547	99,53,000	1,03,04,000	1,01,24,000	

19B—Jails—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	
Superintendence	86,422	65,797	59,969	59,000	62,000	63,000	Increase is due to the appointment of a travelling auditor and his peon sanctioned in March 1914.
Establishments—							
Superintendents and Jailors	2,05,954	2,03,542	2,02,249	2,07,000	2,03,000	1,79,000	Decrease in budget is due to the transfer of officers to Military duty.
Medical	31,406	29,910	33,847	33,000	34,000	33,000	
Clerical, Educational and Mechanical ...	12,205	10,770	12,658	12,000	13,000	14,000	
Warder	2,13,979	2,03,397	2,17,091	2,50,000	2,20,000	2,50,000	Decrease in revised is due to non-utilization of the provision for revision of Warders' establishment as the sanction has not yet come.
Menial and others	2,671	3,669	2,773	1,000	3,000	1,000	
Dietary charges	3,96,443	4,77,981	6,62,695	5,00,000	6,78,000	6,25,000	Increase in the revised is with reference to actuals.
Hospital charges	66,767	71,676	79,015	62,000	67,000	65,000	Increase is due to provision for larger grant for sick diet and inclusion of provision for pay to veterinary assistants.
Clothing and bedding of prisoners ...	63,138	54,479	49,995	66,000	60,000	51,000	Reduced with reference to actuals.
Sanitation charges	24,713	22,879	23,694	24,000	24,000	26,000	Estimates based on actual requirements.
Charges for moving prisoners	29,492	35,943	38,334	42,000	38,000	46,000	
Miscellaneous services and supplies ...	1,12,921	1,01,286	1,23,899	1,18,000	1,16,000	1,14,000	The actuals of 1913-14 included larger expenditure under "Petty Construction and Repairs."
Allowances	16,834	12,680	19,047	11,000	21,000	11,000	Budget does not provide for the grant of grain allowances which has been included under "32—Miscellaneous."
Contingent charges	64,648	82,951	87,408	57,000	52,000	56,000	
Extraordinary charges for live-stock, tools and plant	20,902	18,122	23,288	22,000	21,000	21,000	
Charges for police custody	20,573	18,235	17,538	20,000	21,000	24,000	Budget represents passage money of ex-convicts and conveyance allowance of under-trial prisoners and supply of blankets to prisoners detained in Police lock-up.
Bonus	8,888	—123	5	.....	.....	.....	
Charges for the distribution of quinine by the Juvenile Jail	.....	4,207	3,193	5,000	7,000	5,000	
Total Jails ...	13,77,957	14,17,401	16,56,698	14,89,000	16,44,000	15,84,000	
Jail manufactures	6,68,208	5,44,013	6,06,184	5,86,000	7,31,000	6,09,000	Increase in the revised is for larger expenditure on the purchase of raw materials.
Refunds	5,167	418	.....	500	3,000	2,000	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	+500	.....	.....	
Total ...	20,51,332	19,61,832	22,62,882	20,76,000	23,78,000	21,95,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

Presidency Police—							
Police Commissioner (Superintendence) ...	1,47,741	1,38,337	1,62,120	1,52,000	1,54,000	1,56,000	
Calcutta Police	11,71,977	12,15,083	13,56,930	13,55,206	14,50,000	14,60,960	Increase is due to the raising of the pay of head-constables and constables.
Hospital charges	23,171	32,258	38,656	38,856	40,000	39,000	
Special Police	38,739	35,522	37,866	39,000	30,000	33,102	Decrease in the revised is for smaller expenditure under Police supplied to private individuals.
Cattle-pounds	2,322	2,887	3,166	2,938	3,700	3,638	
River Police	26,597	20,674	13,790	28,000	28,000	30,000	
Police deed house	1,673	2,093	2,262	2,700	2,300	2,700	
Bonus	23,480	2,256	—5	.....	.....	.....	
Lump provision	.....	.....	.....	1,04,455	.....	20,000	Budget includes cost of increased staff for registration of motor vehicles and for increased force for Bara Bazar thana. The charges for 1914-15 are included under "Calcutta Police."
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—155	.....	—400	
Total ...	14,35,900	14,49,110	15,95,085	17,23,000	17,08,000	17,45,000	
Superintendence	3,01,982	2,22,171	3,15,607	2,62,000	2,85,000	2,34,000	Decrease in the budget is due to no provision having been made for the additional Deputy Inspector General of Police, 4th Range. Increase in the revised is under "Contingencies and Supplies and Services."
District Police Force—							
Salaries	5,39,798	5,58,526	5,93,728	5,50,000	6,00,000	6,28,000	Increase is due to additional number of officers.
Police Force	29,43,647	30,60,900	32,70,774	34,00,000	34,86,000	39,00,000	Increase is due to the increase of pay of head-constables and constables.
Training Schools	1,01,839	1,23,111	1,31,658	1,62,000	1,34,000	1,45,000	
Establishment	1,92,899	1,99,662	2,14,860	2,02,000	2,08,500	2,07,000	
Hospital charges	41,087	46,293	50,849	43,000	54,500	54,000	Increase is for larger grant for diet and medical stores.
Allowances	5,63,671	5,30,455	6,84,616	5,40,000	7,70,000	7,00,000	Increase in the revised is for adjustment of grain compensation allowance by transfer from "32—Miscellaneous" and for increased charges under "Travelling Allowances."
Supplies and Services	6,15,154	6,42,259	8,14,465	7,13,000	8,62,000	6,56,000	Decrease in the budget is for smaller grant under "Petty Contract and Repairs." Increase in the revised is under "Clothing and Petty Construction."
Contingencies	2,35,101	2,41,040	3,49,411	2,62,000	3,63,000	2,81,000	Increase is for larger grant for rents.
Other Police	3,17,347	2,94,402	3,54,718	7,50,000	2,98,000	2,91,000	Decrease in the revised is due to non-utilization of the full grant for the reorganization of the River Police. Budget does not provide for non-recurring grant for steam-launches, etc., which is shown under "Lump provision."

20—Police—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	
District Police Force—*concluded.*							
Bonus	93,192	—438	—93	.....	.....	.....	
Lump provision for additional force and Police reforms	.....	.....	... ...	14,46,000	4,45,000	5,25,000	Budget includes Rs. 49,000 for revision of boat establishment, Rs. 20,000 for the Second Personal Assistant of the Inspector-General of Police, and 4 lakhs for non-recurring expenditure on construction of launches and buildings in connection with the reorganization of the subordinate police and river police in the Eastern Bengal districts.
Total ...	56,43,735	56,96,250	64,64,986	80,74,000	72,21,000	73,87,000	
Village Police	24,386	19,874	34,020	30,000	5,000	8,000	Decrease due to transfer of charges for Chowkidari Deputy Magistrate to Land Revenue and Law and Justice.
Criminal Investigation Department ...	6,23,503	4,06,163	4,78,209	4,95,000	5,56,000	5,31,000	Increase is due to larger expenditure on temporary establishment and travelling allowances.
Special Police—							
Assam Frontier Police	184	291	... ..	.....	.....	.....	
Bengal Military Police	2,94,747	2,51,826	2,42,851	1,87,000	2,05,000	2,50,000	The cost of the reorganization of the Military Police was provided for under lump provision under District Executive Force in the Budget for 1914-15, but adjusted here
Frontier Police, Chittagong	45,009	42,841	43,355	48,600	44,500	45,000	
Upper Burma Police charges ...	6,125	6,032	6,542	6,400	6,500	6,400	
Bonus	3,994	63	.....	.....	.....	—400	
Total ...	3,50,059	3,01,053	2,52,748	2,42,000	2,56,000	3,01,000	
Railway Police—							
Jorhat State Railway Police	.....	1,557	1,547	.....	2,000	1,634	
Debru-Sadiya Railway Police ...	1,954	2,537	1,052	.....	2,000	491	
Dacca-Mymensingh Railway Police ...	1,954	3,599	.....	.....	.....	.....	
East Indian Railway Police	84,922	79,901	92,243	1,09,000	93,000	75,000	
Eastern System Railway Police ...	1,84,258	1,73,252	2,00,883	2,10,000	2,14,000	2,14,000	
Bengal and North-Western and Tirhut State Railway Police	6,849	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	

Bengal-Nagpur Railway	25,059	22,516	15,784	.....	15,000	20,000	
Cooch Behar Police	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Assam-Bengal Railway Police	19,411	18,557	14,705	.....	20,000	14,034	
Bonus	2,777	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—159	
Total ...	3,27,181	3,01,972	3,26,214	3,19,000	3,46,000	3,25,000	
Cattle pound	291	134	236	250	500	250	
Refunds	1,174	3,132	3,976	2,750	2,500	3,750	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	—2,50,000	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	87,08,211	83,99,859	94,71,981	1,08,98,000	1,03,80,000	1,05,35,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

21—*Ports and Pilotage*—

Salaries and allowances of officers and men afloat	1,06,186	1,24,693	1,07,006	1,18,000	1,15,000	1,18,000	
Victualling of officers and men afloat ...	33,546	27,771	29,599	32,000	32,000	32,000	
Purchase of marine stores and coal for the building, repairs and outfit of ships and vessels	1,24,485	1,22,569	1,19,825	1,40,000	1,30,000	1,40,000	
Purchase and hire of ships and vessels ...	8,711	16,850	25,056	20,000	15,000	20,000	
Pilotage and Pilot establishment ...	8,30,619	8,18,545	7,97,579	8,20,000	7,23,000	8,21,500	Decrease in the revised is due to smaller payments to pilots on account of partial suspension of trade owing to the war.
Marine establishment	1,75,258	1,3,763	1,43,872	1,33,000	1,61,000	1,43,000	Increase due to adjustment here of charges not exceeding Rs. 15 for each item incurred by the Agent, Government Consignments, which were hitherto debited to other departments
Subsidies to Steam-boat Companies ...	7,823	8,494	2,575	7,300	3,000	3,320	
Miscellaneous	23,500	29,329	1,87,163	2,53,000	1,77,000	1,81,000	Decrease in revised is for non payment of the special provision of Rs. 75,000 for a grant to the Chittagong Port Fund for a grab dredger.
State yacht establishment	14,273	9,986	10,572	12,000	11,000	12,000	
Refunds	3,524	4,089	5,130	4,000	7,000	5,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—300	.....	+180	
Total ...	13,27,925	12,16,009	14,28,377	15,39,000	13,74,000	14,76,000	

22.—*Education*—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Calcutta University	66,028	5,15,000	1,18,500	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,15,000	Decrease in the budget is for no provision for grant from Provincial Revenues.
Direction	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,51,032	1,67,070	1,62,000	1,58,000	Decrease is due to the omission of the lump provision for revision of establishment.
Inspection—							
Inspector of European schools ...	22,789	18,162	11,255	12,000	11,500	13,000	
Inspectors of other schools	7,58,883	7,38,617	7,41,347	7,45,000	8,64,000	7,54,000	Increase is due to the increase in office rent of the Inspector and the Inspectress of Schools, Calcutta.
Inspector of hostels and students' messes	13	.....	5,204	4,000	4,500	4,000	Increase in the revised is for arrear increase of pay of officers.
Inspector of technical schools and of industries	16,076	25,709	25,402	28,000	25,000	29,000	
Bonus	6,719	110	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	8,04,480	7,82,598	7,83,208	7,89,000	9,05,000	8,00,000	
Government Colleges—General—							
English Colleges—							
Arts Colleges for boys	7,08,557	7,45,673	7,43,075	7,86,000	8,56,000	7,85,000	Revised includes payment of arrears of increased pay.
Arts Colleges for girls	31,814	30,655	34,660	34,000	41,000	40,000	Increase due to increase of pay of the Lady Principal of the Bethune College.
Eden Hindu Hostel	33,683	30,391	35,900	30,000	35,000	40,000	Revised based on the actuals of 1913-14 and Budget provides for a small increase over revised.
Oriental Colleges—							
Sanskrit College	32,384	33,425	31,738	31,000	40,000	32,000	Increase under revised is under Salaries of Professors, etc.
Elliott Madrassah and other attached hostels	9,922	10,065	10,551	12,762	10,000	10,000	
Cost of maintaining messes attached to Government Colleges in Calcutta ...	.....	.....	.....	5,808	.....	5,808	
Bonus	1,616	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Deduct—Probable savings ..	.....	.....	.....	—570	.....	—808	
Total ...	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,55,924	8,99,000	9,82,000	9,12,000	

Government Colleges, Professional—							
Law Colleges	13,250	15,185	18,353	15,000	19,000	16,500	Revised based on actuals of 1913-14.
Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, Howrah	2,59,935	3,20,920	2,62,146	2,79,000	2,68,000	2,60,000	Decrease in the revised is under allowances and contingencies.
Mining Instruction in the coal-fields ...	.....	5,658	5,190	4,000	6,000	5,000	
Training Colleges for teachers ...	61,302	58,812	71,635	74,000	67,000	73,000	Decrease in the revised is for non-utilisation of the provision for the purchase of apparatus, instruments, etc.
Bonus	641	.....	.....	.....	.....	—500	
Total ...	3,35,128	4,00,575	3,57,324	3,72,000	3,60,000	3,54,000	
Government Schools, General—							
District School Committees	345	346	443	400	400	500	
Secondary Schools—							
For boys—							
High Schools	4,99,044	5,00,867	5,21,888	5,01,000	5,75,000	5,20,000	Budget follows the actuals of 1913-14. Revised includes larger expenditure on salaries, supplies and services and contingencies specially under boarding charges and rents
Middle English Schools	95,554	88,940	1,08,478	1,12,000	1,20,000	1,14,000	Decrease is under boarding charges.
Middle Vernacular Schools	4,620	3,169	3,163	2,600	3,500	3,000	
For girls—							
High Schools	85,820	80,594	1,06,467	96,000	1,11,000	1,03,000	Larger provision has been made for rents with reference to actuals
Middle English Schools ...	60,077	59,426	71,483	79,000	89,000	83,000	Larger provision has been made for rents with reference to actuals and for additional Masters and Mistresses
Middle Vernacular Schools	5,324	7,713	5,250	3,600	7,000	5,000	Ditto ditto
Female Education Committee ...	.....	.....	250	.....	500	300	
Primary Schools—							
For boys—							
Upper Primary Schools	2,840	4,221	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Lower Primary Schools	.....	.....	1,296	3,000	1,500	2,800	
For girls—							
Upper Primary Schools	2,538	23,036	4,546	6,700	4,500	7,000	
Lower Primary Schools	19,264	.....	18,100	19,000	17,600	19,000	

22—*Education*—concluded.

Heads	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Circle School grant	45,595	40 022	41,119	42,000	41,000	40,000	
Payment in support of local schools under District Boards	5,99,991	11,64,506	13 88,064	2,88,560	10,76,000	2,88,960	Revised raised by transfer from Imperial grants
Bonus	9,532	—288	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Zenana classes in Eastern Bengal ...	8,604	8 813	10,864	12,000	12 000	11,000	
For rounding ...	.....	... ..	.....	+140	.....	—560	
Total ...	14,38,548	19 81,325	22,81,411	11,73,000	20,59,000	11,97,000	
Government Schools, Special—							
Training Schools—							
For Masters—							
Normal Schools	75,237	87,136	84,120	85,000	99,500	90,000	Larger provision has been made for stipends to pupil teachers.
Guru Training Schools	2,13,361	2 14,067	2,13,069	2,53,000	2,16,000	2,16,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure in stipends to pupils, while the lump provision for reforming the system of training in Eastern Bengal was not utilised
For Mistresses—							
Training School attached to the Kurseong Boarding School ...	19,009	23,474	24,234	26,000	27,000	28,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure on stipends to pupils and boarding charges.
Training Schools for females at Calcutta	.....	.....	.....	14 987			
Calcutta School of Art	39,955	26,830	35,252	41,000	44,500	44,000	Increase due to inclusion of the rent of hostel.
Government Art Gallery	10,846	9 840	9 584	8,900	10 000	9,000	
Engineering and Survey Schools ...	66 474	83,123	57,116	60,000	48,500	56,000	Decrease in the revised is due to smaller expenditure on supplies and services and contingencies
Technical and Industrial Schools ...	49,096	54,530	55,662	67,500	59,500	60,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure on stipends and scholarships and smaller regrant of savings in the stationery allotment.
Commercial Schools	19,675	24,370	22,642	30,300	23,000	24,000	
Madrassahs	74 168	73 500	74 591				

Other miscellaneous schools	722	1,5 3	2,305	5,800	5,900	5,900	
Agricultural classes and agricultural gardens	2,269	.....	303	2,500	500	2,500	
Bonus ...	2,288	114	6	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+313	.....	—500	
Total ...	5,75,620	5,98,433	5,78,827	6,88,000	6,09,000	6,09,000	
Grants-in-aid	14,28,094	17,24,594	20,99,939	15,06,000	27,53,000	15,06,000	Revised includes additional grants of Rs. 13,19,000 transferred from Imperial grants.
Scholarships	2,19,04	2,24,400	2,41,638	2,44,000	2,46,000	2,44,000	
Miscellaneous	2,17,307	1,20,518	6,42,200	1,40,000	3,25,000	1,44,000	
Lump provision for improving popular education	.....	.....	.....	11,72,000	.....	9,25,000	
Lump provision for secondary education ...	.....	.....	.....	1,28,000	.....	1,50,000	
Lump provision for female education (recurring)	...	.....	.....	30,000	.....	30,000	
Lump provision for hostel buildings outside Calcutta and Dacca	.....	.....	.....	2,17,000	.....	... ..	
Hostel buildings in Calcutta	.....	.....	.....	8,70,000	.....	.....	
Dacca University and hostels (non-recurring)	.....	... ..	.....	3,00,000	.....	1,00,000	Budget comprises the special non-recurring grant for 5 years from 1914-15
Ditto ditto (recurring) ...	.....	.....	.....	45,000	.....	45,000	
Calcutta University for hostels	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,00,000	Special grant recently sanctioned by the Government of India.
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure	.....	... ..	.....	5,11,000	.....	.....	
Expenditure from the non-recurring grant of 75 lakhs	.. ...	.....	.....	30,00,000	.....	8,00,000	This could be utilized in non-recurring expenditure debitable to Imperial grants of any kind
Expenditure of the recurring grant ...	.....	.....	.....	25,20,000	... ..	13,20,000	
Ditto of further grant	.....	.....	.....	1,50,000	.....	1,50,000	
Refunds	2,454	1,097	2,512	2,000	2,000	3,000	
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	.....	.....	.....	—5,00,000	.....	.....	
Total ...	61,21,873	73,76,829	81,12,515	1,45,43,000	85,23,000	1,05,82,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals

24—Medical—

Heads.	Actuals			1914-15.		1915-16	Remarks.
	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Medical establishment—							
Superintendence	87,698	71,388	69,060	81,000	69,000	81,000	Decrease in the revised is for non-appointment of an Indian Medical Service officer as Personal Assistant and savings under allowances and contingencies.
District Medical establishment ...	4,16,581	4,32,112	4,20,714	4,46,000	4,25,000	3,91,000	Decrease due to the deputation of several Indian Medical officers to Military duty.
Reserve Medical Officers and Subordinates	19,130	9,600	11,671	15,000	12,000	12,000	Revised and budget based on actuals.
Bonus	1,660	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	5,25,129	5,13,109	5,01,445	5,42,000	5,06,000	4,84,000	
Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Medical College Hospital	3,34,259	3,64,393	4,09,790	3,62,000	3,94,000	3,59,000	Decrease in Budget is due to deputation of officers to Military duty. Increase in the revised is under establishment and supplies and services.
General Hospital	2,44,773	2,43,527	2,51,634	2,52,000	2,58,000	2,41,000	Increase in revised is under allowances and supplies and services. Decrease in Budget is for the payment of Municipal taxes, owner's share, by the Public Works Department.
Campbell Hospital	1,24,401	1,25,706	1,41,572	1,43,000	1,37,000	1,41,000	
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...	33,278	37,707	36,213	37,000	32,000	35,000	Decrease in the revised is under salaries owing to the change of incumbent and savings under supplies and services.
Mufassal Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	69,290	1,08,402	1,02,337	91,000	1,15,000	93,000	Increase in the revised is for larger expenditure under salaries.
Grants to Hospitals and Dispensaries ..	2,34,456	2,12,209	3,61,369	1,56,000	3,72,000	1,35,000	Increase in revised is for larger grants for the construction of phthisical wards and other purposes, including special grants of Rs. 38,000 and Rs. 12,000 to the Albert Victor Hospital and the Eden Sanitarium Darjeeling, respectively.
Medical charges in connection with the Inland Labour Transport Fund ...	1,789	1,279	813	1,300	1,000	1,000	
Bonus	5,223	—16	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	10,47,413	10,93,207	13,03,722	10,42,300	13,09,000	10,05,000	
Sanitation and Vaccination	4,31,025	3,60,086	3,13,063	3,92,000	4,19,000	3,07,000	Increase in revised is due to a special expenditure on sewage investigation in Calcutta. No provision has

Grants for medical purposes—							
Expenses during the prevalence of plague	13,323	13,844	13,743	14,000	14,000	15,080	Based on actuals
Contribution to Lady Minto's Nursing Association	3,554	... ..	.....	.....	... ..	.....	
Expenses during the prevalence of epidemics	3,352	1,249	555	2,000	500	1,000	
Value of Medical Stores supplied to charitable institutions	795	1,000	500	1,000	500	500	
Bonus	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Exchange compensation allowance ...	.....	84	.....	.....	... ...	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	... ..	.....	.....	... ...	+ 420	
Total grants for Medical purposes ...	21,049	15,177	14,798	17,000	15,000	17,000	
Medical Schools and Colleges—							
Medical Colleges	2,43,881	2,97,843	3,44,959	3,58,000	3,35,000	3,43,980	Budget follows actuals of 1913-14 and includes larger grant for Supplies and Services
Medical Schools	1,03,900	1,13,503	1,22,854	1,28,000	1,27,000	1,30,000	
Bonus	695	.....	.....	... ..	... ..	... ..	
Total ...	3,54,476	4,11,346	4,67,772	4,86,000	4,62,000	4,73,980	
Lunatic Asylums	1,60,678	1,65,754	1,80,677	1,76,000	1,78,000	1,84,000	Budget includes larger grant for Supplies and Services
Special Hospitals	10,040	10,601	10,526	11,000	10,000	11,000	
Chemical Examiner	50,185	58,851	40,940	57,000	53,000	59,000	
Refunds	14,748	13,002	18,016	14,928	71,000	15,000	Revised includes Rs. 50,000 refunded to the Indian Research Fund Association being the amount contributed by that body for jungle clearing.
Lump grant for non-recurring expenditure on sanitation	.....	....	.....	18,92,772	.....	.....	
Lump recurring grant for ditto ...	.....	.....	.....	2,50,000	.....	2,50,000	
Grant for Medical relief	....	.....	... ..	80,000	.....	20,000	
Lump grant for School of Tropical Medicine	.....	.....	.....	1,50,000	... ..	63,000	The provision of one lakh was transferred to the Public Works Department in 1914-15. Rupees 50,000 for equipments will not be spent in 1914-15 but will be required in 1915-16.
Ditto State Medical Faculty ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,000	
Ditto Bengal Council of Medical Registration.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,000	
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	.....	.....	.....	—10,00,000	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	26,14,743	26,42,133	28,50,459	47,81,000	30,23,000	26,13,000	

25—Political—

Heads.	Actuals. 1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14.	1914-15. Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate.	1915-16. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Political Agents	14,648	11,854	14,262	15,600	14,000	15,700	
Durbar presents and allowances to Vakils, etc.	7,872	23,750	15,213	10,000	10,000	10,000	
Miscellaneous	102	3,372	3,500	3,400	4,000	4,300	
Total ...	22,622	38,976	32,975	29,000	28,000	30,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals.

26A—Agriculture—

Veterinary charges—							
Superintendence	28,086	20,208	20,741	17,000	31,000	21,000	Revised includes the salaries of Superintendent which were formally debited to Imperial but provincialized in 1914-15.
Veterinary Instruction	1,14,699	1,08,947	1,13,196	1,14,000	1,27,000	1,45,000	Revised includes the salary of Principal. Budget includes the cost of an officer under training, motor car charges and pay of constables formerly shown under Superintendence.
Subordinate establishment	33,090	26,202	25,955	36,000	34,000	38,000	
Hospitals and dispensaries	14,828	8,314	17,026	13,000	12,500	16,000	
Cattle-breeding operations	2,098	1,307	49	.....	.....	.....	Budget based on actuals.
Cattle survey	7,879	5,841	137	.....	.....	.....	
Bacteriology	10,272	13,029	13,167	13,000	13,500	13,000	
Bonus	1,355	—12	.....	.....	... ..	.....	
Probable savings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—1,000	
Total ...	2,12,307	1,83,836	1,90,271	1,93,000	2,18,000	2,32,000	
Agriculture—							
Superintendence	1,27,329	76,031	69,265	67,800	70,000	74,000	Budget includes extra establishment for jute forecast work.
Expert staff	76,643	91,420	90,843	1,37,000	1,10,000	1,45,000	Decrease in the revised is due to lapse of lump provision for extra fieldmen. Budget includes cost of additional supervisors and their clerks, one district agricultural officer, three additional laboratory assistants and additional fieldmen demonstrators.
Agricultural College	8,790	124	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Experimental farms	73,465	74,804	1,22,926	1,39,000	1,32,000	1,26,000	Budget includes smaller provision for contingencies.
Special crops	36,500	4,000	13,875	4,000	4,000	4,000	
Agricultural Associations	4,580	9,714	7,658	9,000	7,000	9,000	
Central seeds stores	18,787	10,900	7,231	15,000	11,000	14,000	
Distribution of Agricultural Literature	1,034	.....	.....	500	500	.....	

Scientific	43,424	40,925	...,902	1,41,000	1,11,000	.....	... experiments. Increase in the budget is due to the opening of new nurseries.
Miscellaneous	6,146	6,193	39,466	36,000	38,000	36,000	
Botanical Garden at Sibpur ...	94,781	89,805	81,986	1,00,000	97,000	1,10,000	Budget includes Rs. 7,573 for regrant of savings in the Contract contingent grant.
Grants to Public Gardens	28,464	29,158	31,298	30,000	31,000	30,000	
Zoological Gardens, Calcutta ...	4,620	5,283	5,251	4,800	5,000	5,400	
Botanical Gardens at Darjeeling ...	13,636	14,093	13,986	14,000	14,000	14,000	
Other Government Gardens ...	32,804	39,180	40,098	43,714	37,500	44,784	
Public exhibition and fairs ...	379	2,622	1,408	.....	.....	.....	
Bonus	1,274	.....	426	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	186	.....	—184	
Total ...	5,78,456	5,27,250	6,25,099	7,48,000	6,71,000	7,63,000	
Co-operative credit	80,391	61,051	91,406	93,000	87,000	1,02,000	Budget includes provision of additional Auditors and additional expenditure for the expansion of the department.
Lump provision for Agriculture and allied objects	.....	.....	.....	1,52,000	.....	2,14,000	A portion of the grant was used for the acquisition of land and construction of a new veterinary hospital at Dacca which was debited to the Public Works Department
Grand Total ...	8,71,154	7,72,137	9,06,776	11,81,000	9,76,000	11,17,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals

26B—*Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments*—

Scientific—							
Cinchona plantations	3,85,751	6,67,845	2,73,788	2,58,000	2,53,000	2,14,500	Decrease in the budget is for smaller provision for temporary establishment and for omission of the special provision for extensions. Decrease in the revised is for smaller expenditure on chemicals and petty constructions.
Donations to Scientific Societies ...	14,950	15,200	11,984	11,660	15,000	11,870	
Imperial Institute	8	.....	40	.....	100	100	
Labour and Emigration—							
Emigration	19,464	22,224	22,619	23,000	23,000	23,000	
Inland Labour Transport	29,030	22,686	22,014	27,000	34,500	25,000	Revised includes Rs. 9,000 for a bungalow for the Assistant Superintendent of Emigration at Gowalundo
Inspector of Factories	65,022	60,086	57,888	72,000	56,000	68,000	Decrease in the revised is due to lapse of the provision for an additional Inspector and for smaller charges for remunerating medical officers. No provision has been made for the additional Inspector in the budget for 1915-16.
Statistics—							
Gazetteer and Statistical Memoirs ...	3,135	3,726	870	10,000	3,000	7,000	Estimate based on probable requirements.
Registration of railway traffic ...	11,167	9,933	7,862	8,370	8,000	8,000	
Registration of river borne traffic ...	10,412	5,653	4,135	6,550	5,000	5,000	
Provincial statistics	25,216	30,159	25,769	24,300	25,000	25,000	
Census	1,634	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

26B—*Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals			1914-15		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Miscellaneous—							
Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts	5,850	7,625	9,250	9,000	11,000	9,000	
Examinations	441	422	674	700	1,000	1,500	Budget includes charges for Secretariat clerkship examination.
Miscellaneous	37,331	45,415	81,583	86,000	75,000	82,500	Decrease in the revised is for savings in the grant for fishery experiments. Budget includes Rs. 57,000 for Fishery Department and Rs. 25,500 for Smoke Nuisance Commission
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,000	23,000	The appointment of the Registrar was created from 1st April and the revised represents charges for 11 months. The charges were provided for under Registration, but under the orders of the Controller-General, it is now shown here. Budget includes provision for a Sub-Registrar.
Inspector of Mines	265	125	119	200	100	100	
Refunds	108	726	688	1,200	800	1,500	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	94	.....	—70	
Total ...	6,09,784	8,91,816	5,19,023	5,44,000	5,28,000	5,05,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

29—*Superannuation*—

Covenanted Civil Service pensions ...	43,750	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	
Superannuation and retired allowances ...	27,13,887	28,54,278	29,50,154	30,83,000	30,55,000	31,55,000	Provision has been made for the normal growth of expenditure.
Compassionate allowances	2,683	2,648	4,005	4,000	4,589	5,000	Budget based on actuals.
Gratuities	16,380	14,932	12,481	15,000	21,000	15,000	
Ports and Pilotage pensions	8,603	8,493	8,594	8,500	8,000	8,500	
Refunds	334	337	219	500	500	500	
Commuted value of pensions	.....	.....	80,235	75,000	1,50,000	2,00,000	Budget provides for an increase of Rs. 50,000 over revised as advantage is being taken of the new rules about commutation which is sanctioned by the Government of India and other Governments and debited to Bengal when drawn from Bengal Treasuries.
Total ...	27,85,637	29,25,688	31,00,288	32,31,000	32,84,000	34,29,000	

30—*Stationery and Printing*—

Forms Department at the Presidency ...	53,391	52,002	59,712	71,000	62,000	.....	Amalgamated with the New Central Jail Press, the combined departments have been designated as "Press and Forms Department."
Stationery purchased in the country ...	24,869	23,130	25,965	27,000	29,000	28,000	
Government Presses	6,74,169	6,24,717	6,36,085	6,84,000	6,90,000	6,94,000	Decrease in the revised is nominal and is due to the adjustment by reduction of expenditure of Rs. 69,000 being the sale-proceeds of the machinery of the Dacca Jail Press taken over by the Gaya Jail. Budget includes the cost of the Forms Department which has now been amalgamated with the Jail Press, while the Dacca Jail Press has been abolished
Printing at private presses	5,129	1,222	2,505	2,000	3,000	3,000	
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	8,19,035	6,32,102	7,58,232	6,60,000	6,60,000	6,60,000	
Refunds	2,428	1,256	2,907	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Total ...	15,79,021	13,34,429	14,85,406	14,44,000	13,56,000	13,87,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months

32—*Miscellaneous*—

Miscellaneous charges for the treatment of patients of the Pasteur Institute ...	1,492	1,296	1,120	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Travelling allowances to officers attending examinations	3,774	7,150	... ..	4,000	.....	.....	The charges are now debited to the same head as salaries.
Reward for proficiency in Oriental languages, and allowance to the Language Examination Committee	7,200	4,017	4,378	6,000	3,000	4,000	Based on actuals.
Cost of books and publications ...	47,503	8,112	1,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Donations for charitable purposes ...	1,83,618	2,30,273	2,20,731	1,70,000	2,00,000	1,70,000	Increase in the revised is for special grants to the Calcutta Orphanage District Charitable Society, and Salvation Army.
Charges on account of European vagrants...	4,103	7,960	4,991	6,000	6,000	6,000	Based on actuals.
Rewards for destruction of wild animals ...	16,503	13,953	19,534	19,000	18,000	17,000	
Petty establishments	30,291	37,697	37,417	23,000	22,000	21,000	Estimate based on actual requirements
Special Commissions of Enquiry ...	484	52,274	1,09,840	50,000	1,00,000	20,000	Revised includes Rs. 53,000 for the Port Development Committee and Rs. 44,000 for the District Administration Committee. Budget provides for normal unforeseen requirements
Irrecoverable temporary loans written-off ...	4	2,323	3,547	4,000	2,000	3,000	
Rent, rates and taxes	54,106	45,495	40,305	45,000	40,000	40,000	
Contributions	1,75,287	3,396	10,342	34,800	10,000	14,000	Budget includes larger provision for guarantee of new telegraph lines wanted urgently by the Police Department.

32—Miscellaneous—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	
Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges ...	7,245	4,804	99,160	3,06,000	32,000	3,06,000	Revised represents compensation for lands and houses in Dacca. Decrease in the revised is due to debit under proper heads of grants by His Excellency and the reserve for unforeseen requirements. Budget includes 1 lakh for petty grants by His Excellency, 1½ lakhs as general reserve, and ½ lakh for gratuitous relief.
Extraordinary items	.....	.. ...	229	.....	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous refunds	8,261	2,732	9,716	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Annual stipend to holders of literary titles	.....	4,092	2,908	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lump provision for grain compensation allowance for all departments ...	.....	.....	.....	4,00,000	.....	4,00,000	The charges have been adjusted under appropriate heads.
Charges for search of hidden treasure ...	.....	36	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Books and subscriptions to periodicals ...	.....	.....	2,138	.....	2,000	2,000	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+200	.....	.....	
Total ...	5,60,371	4,25,610	5,87,418	10,81,000	4,48,000	10,16,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

42—Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses)—

Midnapore Canal	2,43,964	2,06,943	1,78,785	2,10,000	1,58,000	1,97,000	Decrease in the revised is under maintenance and repairs.
Hijili Tidal Canal	33,122	28,774	1,19,004	86,000	1,00,000	70,000	
Total ...	2,77,086	2,35,717	2,97,789	2,96,000	2,58,000	2,67,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	1,38,543	1,17,858	1,48,895	1,48,000	1,29,000	1,33,000	

42—Irrigation—Major Works (Interest on Debt)—

Interest	3,41,301	3,51,236	3,39,987	3,38,000	3,40,000	3,40,000	Interest is calculated at Rs. 3·3879 per cent. on the capital outlay to end of 1913-14 of Midnapore Canal (Rs. 82,39,830) and Hijili Tidal Canal (Rs. 17,85,480)
Provincial share	1,70,650	1,75,618	1,69,993	1,69,000	1,70,000	1,70,000	

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT						
Embankments under the contract system—						
Establishments	2,375	1,882	1,597	2,000	1,500	1,512
Contingencies	31	48	361	5,500	500	400
Allowance	6	.....	6	.....	.....	.....
Maintenance charges of the Howrah and Rajapur drainage projects	1,426	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Refunds	.....	.....	.....	500	.....	.....
Bonus	71	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rounding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+88
Total in charge of the Civil Department ...	3,909	1,930	1,964	8,000	2,000	2,000
Provincial share	1,954	965	982	4,000	1,000	1,000
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.						
IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION WORKS						
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept						
CAPITAL.						
Works in progress						
Midnapore Canal	—3,942	1,198		2,400	.....	13,000
Hooghly Budyadhari Canal	.....	12,741		.....	.....	.....
Calcutta and Eastern Canals	—96,978	—82,320		—55,800	5,79,450	—79,000
Madaripur Bhil Scheme	4,590	95,489		34,500	1,26,600	.. ..
Utterbagh lock	14,798	73,852		.....	17,800	.....
Survey of the proposed Grand Trunk Canal	.....	.....		.....	3,200	.....
Total Capital ...	3,72,960	1,00,960	2,07,238	—18,900	7,27,050	—66,000
REVENUE.						
Orissa Coast Canal	19,016	19,227	27,656	17,400	11,890	22,000
Calcutta and Eastern Canals	3,01,057	4,39,561	3,88,924	6,12,000	4,37,827	7,57,000
Madaripur Bhil Scheme	7,210	92,917	1,17,560	60,500	2,59,375	1,74,500
Total Revenue ...	3,27,283	5,51,705	5,34,140	6,89,900	7,09,092	9,53,500
Total Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept	7,00,243	6,52,665	7,41,378	6,71,000	14,36,142	8,87,500

Decrease is due to adjustment of the expenditure for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur-Boalia in the Public Works Department. Both budget and revised includes contribution to the Tippera District Board for maintaining gauge and gauge readers in connection with the Gumti embankment.

Budget is chiefly for the construction of an escape in the first reach of the Canal

Budget represents the credit anticipated on account of the hire of the dredger *Foyers*

The work will be completed in 1914-15

Budget includes special provision for land required for working the dredger *Foyers*

43.—Minor Works and Navigation —concluded.

Heads	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.							
Works in progress.							
Nadia Rivers	80,226	1,38,461	1,29,341	1,29,000	1,08,068	1,28,000	
Gaighatta and Buxi *khals*	4,680	8,637	289	600	480	500	
Total Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept	84,906	1,47,098	1,29,630	1,29,600	1,08,548	1,28,500	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept							
Works in progress.							
Eden Canal		20,684	39,837	89,000	66,780	59,000	
Improvement of navigable channels—Ganges river	54,332	61,847	45,000	69,894	40,000		
Dredging the Bhagirathi entrance ...		.....	.....	.....	.....		
Dredging the Gorai entrance		9,617	1,06,400	25,346	33,000		
Other works	.....	.....					
Bhagirathi observation	.....	.....	.....	12,550	.....		
Dredging the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers	.....						
Bandalling and putting on spurs on the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers ...	48,691	82,957	80,000	81,600	86,500		
Grant-in-aid for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur-Boalia	.....						
Improving the channel of the Karnafuli ...	.....						
Repairs	.....	.....					
Dredging the Puttimari channel ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Taking tidal observations and making surveys in connection with the proposed canalisation of the Bidyadhari and Peali rivers	.....	3,352	.....	.....	.....		
Total Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept ...	1,17,163	1,23,707	1,97,610	3,20,400	2,47,170	2,18,500	
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works	9,02,312	9,23,470	10,68,618	11,21,000	17,91,860	12,34,500	

AGRICULTURAL AND DRAINAGE WORKS.						
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept and of which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.						
WORKS IN PROGRESS.						
Government embankments	.....					
Midnapore takavi embankments under contract	.....	6,12,837	8,55,839	10,94,000	10,02,140	10,37,500
Rajapur and Howrah drainage	.....					
Magra Hât drainage project	.....					
Total Agricultural ...	6,58,487	6,12,837	8,55,839	10,94,000	10,02,140	10,37,500
Reserve	.....	.....	.....	23,000	.....	20,000
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	15,60,799	15,36,307	19,24,457	22,38,000	27,94,000	22,92,000
Provincial share	7,80,399	7,68,153	9,62,228	11,19,000	13,97,000	11,46,000

45.—*Civil Works*—

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.							
Provision for sub-overseers in each subdivision in Bengal to report on the real condition of rural water supply ...	.....	.....	12,900	14,000	14,000	5,000	
Ferry charges	2,485	2,584	5,461	7,838	6,600	9,000	
„ refunds	7,517	9,505	13,226	12,000	21,000	15,000	
Staging bungalows	4,223	5,660	4,192	3,947	4,000	4,000	
Encamping grounds	17	59	1,060	776	2,200	469	
Arboriculture	13,754	21,146	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Cemetery establishment	.....	.....	2,139	4,613	2,200	4,410	
Contributions in aid of excluded local funds and municipalities	8,28,989	4,36,575	5,72,483	1,74,813	4,64,000	1,76,000	Increase in the revised is for larger grant for water works sanctioned by transfer from Medical. Budget does not include these grants which have been taken under Medical
Other items	14,461	1,74,290	13,585	5,150	7,000	.....	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ..	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	
Contribution to district funds and district road funds	10,06,283	8,80,565	7,57,792	7,03,700	9,03,000	8,40,000	Increase in the revised is for larger augmentation grant.
Grants to the Local bodies	.....	.....	34,455	.....	5,000	5,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+163	.....	+121	
Total in charge of the Civil Department ...	30,27,723	26,80,344	25,74,263	20,77,000	25,79,000	22,09,000	

45.—*Civil Works*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate	Budget Estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
In charge of the Public Works Department.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	
Original Works.							
Civil Buildings ... { In progress ... ... / Not commenced ... }	29,22,156	32,39,655	42,47,697	{ 20,41,100 / 24,19,900 }	47,19,000	{ 20,25,300 / 3,00,000 }	
Communications ... { In progress ... ... / Not commenced ... }	1,95,791	1,71,609	3,09,208	{ 4,04,500 / 6,79,500 }	6,98,000	{ 4,33,700 / 1,24,100 }	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements. { In progress ... ... / Not commenced ... }	2,59,518	49,052	1,18,399	{ 14,000 / ..... }	69,000	{ 4,900 / ... }	
Total ...	33,77,465	34,60,316	46,75,304	55,59,000	54,86,000	28,88,000	
Repairs.							
Civil Buildings	7,67,270	8,46,843	10,24,747	12,73,000	12,92,000	12,80,000	
Communications	8,43,967	8,80,979	8,77,704	8,00,000	8,93,000	8,10,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements ...	68,251	70,971	77,963	1,10,000	1,10,000	1,10,000	
Total ...	16,79,488	17,98,793	19,80,414	21,83,000	22,95,000	22,00,000	
Establishment	10,27,063	9,84,000	9,84,906	11,47,000	12,40,000	13,50,000	
Tools and Plant	63,214	47,479	82,852	70,000	89,000	50,000	
Stock and Suspense	4,666	31,176	−79,691	.....	90,000	...	
Total in charge of Public Works Department	61,51,896	63,21,755	76,44,385	89,59,000	92,00,000	64,88,000	

SCHEDULE OF NEW SCHEMES ESTIMATED TO COST MORE THAN Rs. 5,000 IN ANY ONE YEAR.

Obligatory schemes which have been provided for in the budget for 1915-16.

Major budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of Expenditure in 1915-16.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total	Non-recurring.	Recurring	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.—Excise			Rs	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
District Executive Establishment—Sadar Establishment.	Reorganization of the Excise Department and its amalgamation with the Salt Department.	.....	2,57,811	2,57,811	.....	1,50,000	1,50,000	The reorganization of the Excise Department and its amalgamation with the Salt Department have been sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India. The total cost of the amalgamated establishment will be Rs. 7,90,000 showing an increase over the present sanctioned scale of Rs. 2,57,811 per annum. A provision of Rs. 1,50,000 was made in the Budget for 1914-15 towards the introduction of the scheme, and the same amount has been provided for in the Budget for 1915-16. (Of the total cost of the establishment, a fixed debt of Rs. 2,00,000 will be made to Imperial on account of the Salt Department.)
18.—General Administration								
Civil Secretariat ...	Additional establishment (General Department)	.....	5,100	5,100	.....	5,100	5,100	The work of the Education Department is growing rapidly, and in order to cope with the increase of work, the following additional establishment has been sanctioned:—

			Rs.
1	...	...	200
1	...	...	125
1	...	...	100
			425
			× 12
			5,100

Major budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of Expenditure in 1915-16.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
18.—General Administration—*concluded.*		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Legislative Department ...	Officer on special duty in the Legislative Department	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	A special officer on Rs. 500 is required in connection with the amendment of Bengal Act III of 1889. A special officer is being continually employed in the Legislative Department from February 1913, and the charges were met by reappropriation from savings in the budgets. As it is likely that a special officer will be required throughout the year 1915-16, a provision of Rs. 6,000 has been made.
	Total ...	.....	11,100	11,100	.....	11,100	11,100	
20.—Police								
Presidency Police ...	Increased police staff for the Bara Bazar section in the Calcutta Police.	19,781	.....	19,781	17,160	.....	17,160	At present 13 additional sergeants are employed temporarily in Bara Bazar to strengthen the police. The cost is shown below —

	Average cost. Rs. A. P.
Pay of 13 sergeants (100—5—125)...	115 4 5
Or ...	1,498 9 5
	×12
	17,983 1 0
Contingencies at 10 per cent of pay	1,798 0 0
	19,781 1 0

In the first year the minimum pay will be drawn, and the charges will be—

	Rs.
	13 × 100 × 12 = 15,600
Contingencies	1,560
	17,160

As the whole staff will not be employed [illegible]

Ditto	...	Additional staff for motor-car work.	.....	9,878	9,878	.....	8,580	8,980

This is required for registration of motor vehicles and for regulating the traffic—

	Rs.	A.	P.	
One Superintendent of motor vehicles (300—25—450)	398	5	4	
House-rent of the Superintendent ...	100	0	0	
1 Clerk (Rs. 80)	80	0	0	
1 do. („ 70)	70	0	0	
1 do. („ 60)	60	0	0	
1 do. („ 40)	40	0	0	
	748	5	4	per mensem.
Annual	8,980	0	0	
Contingencies at 10 per cent of pay	898	0	0	
	9,878	0	0	

In the first year minimum pay will be drawn and will amount to—

	Rs.
Superintendent	300 × 12 = 3,600
House-rent	1,200
Establishment	250 × 12 = 3,000
	7,800
Contingencies ...	780
	8,580

District Police	...	Pay and allowances of the crew of the steam-launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj.	.....	8,267	8,267	.....	4,000	4,000

	Rs.
Pay	2,994
Clothing	65
Coal and fuel	4,212
Stores	996
	8,267

Major budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of Expenditure in 1915-16.			Remarks
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	
District Police. Superintendence—	Appointment of a Second Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police.	.....	20,000	20,000	.....	20,000	20,000	A second Personal Assistant is required to cope with the increase of work in the Inspector-General's office which has assumed a proportion beyond the capacity of one Personal Assistant to deal with. The proposal involves the addition of an inferior appointment to the cadre. The two new appointments will, if sanctioned, be as follows :—
								Per mensem Rs.
								1 Superintendent of Police, 5th grade ... 700
								Local allowance 200
								House-rent allowance 150
								1 Assistant Superintendent 500
								In addition to this, the following cost is involved :—
								Rs. A. P.
District Police ...	Reorganization of the subordinate police in Eastern Bengal (Establishment, etc.) —							1 orderlies ... ... 10 8 0 each per mensem, including local allowance.
								Maintenance of kit ... 1 10 8 per mensem.
	Establishment of a new police-station, Burichang	240	1,470		.....	1,470		The whole scheme has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and effect is being given gradually as funds permit. In the current year's budget there is a provision of Rs. 91,470 recurring, and of Rs 3,13,385 non-recurring. The Inspector-General of Police wants to provide Rs. 3,03,143 for non-recurring expenditure and Rs 80,518 for recurring expenditure in 1915-16, but as funds are not available the items already sanctioned have been provided for.
	Establishment of a new centre at Debidwar, Moradnagar police-station ...	240	1,470		.....	1,470		
	Establishment of a police-station at Pabna ...	380	2,615		.....	2,615		
	Establishment of a police-station at Jaypurhat ...	120	780		.....	780		
	Reconstitution of town police at Rampur Boalia	280	1,816		.....	1,816		
	For urgent requirements of opening new investigating centres ...	.....	1,849		.....	1,849		
	Total ...	1,260	10,000	11,260	.....	10,000	10,000	

	River Police in Eastern Bengal districts :—							State and effect is being given gradually. In the current year's budget, Rs. 71,512 recurring, and Rs. 4,50,263 non-recurring have been provided. The Inspector-General of Police wants Rs. 49,562 for recurring, and Rs. 4,14,312 for non-recurring expenditure during 1915-16. As funds are not available to the full extent, the recurring charges have been provided for.
	Seven sub-inspectors ...	.....	7,140		.....	7,140		
	Eight head-constables ...	160	2,632		160	2,352		
	Stores for steam-launches	.....	10,000		.....	10,000		
	Hospital supplies and furniture	500	.....		500	.....		
	Staff for workshop ...	.....	5,040		.....	5,040		
	Establishment for Inspector's launch ...	.....	3,270		.....	3,270		
	Establishmefft for six thana launches	.....	11,760		.....	11,760		
	Total ...	660	39,842	40,502	660	39,562	40,222	
	Total ...	21,701	87,987	1,09,688	17,820	82,142	99,962	
22.—Education—Government Colleges—General								
Arts Colleges for Girls ...	Creation of one additional appointment in the Indian Educational Service.	... ..	8,400	8,400	.....	6,000	6,000	It is proposed to appoint an Indian Educational Service Officer as Lady Principal of the Bethune College in place of an appointment on Rs. 200 a month in the Provincial Educational Service. The pay of the post will be Rs. 500—50—700 a month, with a local allowance of Rs. 200.
24.—Medical ..	Council of Medical Registration, Bengal.	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	The Council of Medical Registration will require— Establishment ... ... Rs. 7,000; Allowances ... ... 5,270; Law charges ... ... 2,000; Printing charges ... . 10,000; Stamps ... ... 1,300; Office furniture and contingencies ... 3,000; Total ... 28,570. As the probable receipts from Registration are estimated to amount to Rs. 20,000, a grant of Rs. 10,000 from Provincial Revenues will have to be given to the Council to start with.
24—Medical ...	Establishment of a State Medical Faculty for the examination of medical students.	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	A grant of Rs. 10,000 (approximate) will have to be given towards the pay of the Registrar and the establishment.
	Total ...	.....	20,000	[illegible]	.....	20,000	20,000	

Major budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made.	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of Expenditure in 1915-16.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
26A.—Agriculture.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Veterinary and stallion charges.	Second European officer for Bengal Veterinary College	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	This is necessary for the proper working of the college. The proposal has been recommended to the Secretary of State.
Expert staff	Fieldmen, Demonstrators and Apprentices ...	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	5,000	5,000	
Registrar of Co-operative Societies.	Additional establishment for the Department of Co-operative Societies ...	.....	13,668	13,668	.....	9,716	9,716	The Registrar presses the necessity for the additional establishment being employed : otherwise it will not be possible to carry out even the legal duties under the Act.
								Minimum. Maximum. Rs.
								1 Weaving expert ... ... 150—10—200
								1 Inspector ... ... 150—10—200
								2 Inspectors ... ... 200—20—300
								4 Auditors ... ... 200—10—300
								1 Office clerk ... ... 60— 3— 75
								8 Peons ... ... 64——— 64
								Total (monthly) ... 824——1,139
								Total (annually) ... 9,888— 13,668
	Total ...	.....	25,668	25,668	.....	20,716	20,716	
32.—Miscellaneous.								
Contributions ...	Maintenance and working of telegraph lines.	.....	30,000	30,000	.....	10,000	10,000	This is required for guarantees of telegraph lines in the mufassal which it is desirable to open for administrative reasons. The necessity for increased telegraph facilities is specially felt by the police department, and their extension would be of great assistance in the prevention and detection of crime.
	Grand Total ...	21,701	1,40,966	4,62,667	17,820	2,99,958	3,17,778	

RESOLUTIONS.

Expenditure—Head 22—Education.

Appendix to the List of Business—Motion No. 1.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved the following resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, out of the lump provision of Rs. 9,25,000 for improving popular education, a sum of Rs. 50,000 be set apart for the promotion of primary education in Calcutta.

He said :—

"My Lord, the subject of primary education in Calcutta has been engaging the attention of Your Excellency's Government as well as of the Calcutta Corporation for some time past. Last year the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell read a paper on the subject. Sir Charles Allen was in favour of the Corporation taking over primary education in Calcutta, receiving in return a grant of revenue equivalent to the estimated cost of expenditure. Sir Archdale Earle who succeeded Sir Charles Allen disapproved the idea as he was afraid that the Calcutta Corporation would be swamped with the expenditure if the additional funds were not forthcoming. It was suggested by the Hon'ble Mr Hornell in his paper that a representative committee might be appointed to consider the whole question, but nothing has been done in that direction. The Corporation have taken a keen interest in the matter, and they have been expecting for some years past, as was stated by the Chairman, that Government would consider the matter and would soon make a communication on the subject; but nothing has yet been done. My Lord, the existing *pathsalas* in Calcutta impart primary education to the boys belonging to the poor middle class people. The *pathsalas* are situated in dark, dingy and insanitary places, and the *gurus* are not the stamp of teachers who are qualified to impart a sound education to the little boys who are placed under their care. The *gurumahashyas* are a class of ill-paid men who manage somehow or other to eke out an existence, getting from Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a month from fees realised from the boys who attend their *pathsalas*. The fee ranges from annas 2 to annas 8 and the *gurumahashyas* also manage to get some extra subsistence by working in traders' shops or in other places. In this way the primary education of Calcutta is carried on in most of the *pathsalas*. My Lord, the cost of living in Calcutta is so dear that people cannot afford—especially the poorer class people and those who are known as the depressed classes, who largely reside in Calcutta—to pay for the education of their boys in primary schools, or rather in the classes attached to the high schools intended to impart primary education. The fees in the high schools are also prohibitive and therefore the poorer classes are practically without proper facilities for imparting education to their boys. I find from the last census report that, of the boys who are of a school-going age, out of 91,000, about 50 per cent. cannot afford, or rather have not that facility for obtaining, any education at all; and therefore the question of primary education has become very important in Calcutta. What I would suggest for the consideration of Government is that there should be a model primary school in every ward of the town, with the exception of the European section, and these schools should be under the control of the Director of Public Instruction. They should be located in good sanitary buildings with small compounds attached, and not like the present *pathsalas* which are dark, dingy huts or buildings where the little boys are made to squat on mats spread on the floor. If these schools are established in different parts of Calcutta, it will lead to the dissolution of these insanitary and inefficient schools, and will afford to the poorer classes some facilities for the proper education of their children. I think, my Lord, the question of fees

should be taken into consideration. The question of free primary education was mooted by the late lamented Mr. Gokhale in the Imperial Council, but it was not agreed to, and I think, that in order to extend the blessings of education, either free education or education on as cheap a basis as can possibly be devised, some such scheme should be immediately taken in hand in Calcutta. My Lord, in Calcutta I find that out of Rs. 1,53,217 spent last year on primary education, Rs. 39,270 was met out of provincial revenues, and Rs. 15,000 from municipal funds, and Rs. 66,564 from fees, and about Rs. 33,000 was met from private sources. It will be seen therefore that the Government contribution for the promotion of primary education in Calcutta is quite inadequate, and it has been suggested that the whole question could be best considered by a representative committee. That was the suggestion of the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell, who stated, in the paper read by him, that at one time a scheme was in contemplation for the construction of some 45 model primary schools, but the scheme was not carried into effect, and consequently the primary schools in Calcutta continue to be in a deplorable state. My object in bringing up this motion is not so much as to ask that a sum of Rs. 50,000 be set apart for the promotion of primary education, because I am not in a position to say whether that sum would be sufficient to make a start, but my object is to bring this matter to the notice of Government and to elicit some expression of opinion on the subject. I know that I have the sympathy of Government in this matter and I am grateful. The Director of Public Instruction fully appreciates the fact that Calcutta is neglected in the matter of primary education and he has for some years been taking a very keen interest in this matter, and I do earnestly hope that this matter will not be left in its present state, but will be taken up by Government and especially by my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell, the Director of Public Instruction."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I am in sympathy with the resolution, but without pledging myself to the terms in which it has been brought forward I think that it is really a part of a large question. The whole question of primary education is raised by the terms of that resolution. Calcutta is not the only place where there ought to be a stimulus given to primary education, but I think something should be done in respect of primary education over the whole province. The Government accepted a resolution which was moved by me, viz., that the education allotments should be laid before the Council. I believe that was done last year at the time of the budget. Will my friend the Director of Public Instruction be in a position to tell us whether he has formulated any scheme for the expenditure of the grants on primary education, and then perhaps we would be in a position to judge what allotments have been made for Calcutta, and what allotments for the other parts of the country? The question of primary education is of the utmost importance, and I think, Sir, as the Director of Public Instruction has himself pointed out in the quotation which has been read to us, that model schools should be established, that night schools might be started. A voluntary agency was requisitioned some few years back for this purpose, but nothing came of it. I think Government ought to seriously take up the matter, and if Government were to start model schools in Calcutta, I am perfectly certain that the blessed contagion would spread far and wide, and the strong impulse for the spread of primary education would receive a renewed impetus. I do hope and trust that the Director of Public Instruction will be in a position to give us some assurance as to the lines upon which the grant is to be spent, and I hope that something real, something definite and something substantial will be done in the course of the next few years."

The Hon'ble MR. HORNELL said :—

"My Lord, the resolution suggests that this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, out of the lump provision of Rs. 9,25,000 for

improving popular education, a sum of Rs. 50,000 be set apart for the promotion of primary education in Calcutta.

The Imperial assignment to which the Hon'ble mover of the resolution refers, contains a sum of 6 lakhs for the elementary education of Indian boys. The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji has asked whether I can state how it is proposed to assign this money. Well, this money was practically assigned some time ago, and in assigning it, it was generally agreed that in the forefront of the scheme of expenditure there should be placed some provision for the improvement of the pay of primary school teachers. The scale which has been sanctioned provides for additional monthly payments respectively of Rs. 3 for trained primary school teachers and Re. 1 for untrained teachers, and the cost of working out this scheme to its completion will be spread over five years, viz., from 1913-14 to 1917-18. Practically the whole of this sum will be absorbed in the year 1917-18 by the payment of such additional sums to teachers in primary schools. Elaborate tables of expenditure have been drawn up and the expenditure required in 1917-18 will be something as follows :—

	Rs.
Amount required for the increased pay of teachers in primary schools in District Board areas ...	4,73,604
Amount required for the increased pay of teachers in primary schools in Municipal areas ...	30,816
Amount required for the maintenance of Board schools in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions	96,164
Total ..	6,00,584

I would invite the attention of the Council to the fact that a sum of Rs. 30,816 has been allotted for increasing the pay of primary school teachers in municipal areas. Out of this sum Rs. 6,552 will be the share of Calcutta.

The Hon'ble mover has referred to a paper which I read last year on 'Educational organization as a civic problem,' in which I dwelt with some vehemence on the extreme difficulty and the extreme importance of tackling the question of primary education in Calcutta. As a result of this paper the Corporation of Calcutta appointed a committee to consider the question of school arrangements for Calcutta. The committee decided that they could do nothing until they had ascertained what Government proposed to do. I was consulted in June last, and I advised Government that they would not be able to move in the matter until they knew more of what the problem of school provision in Calcutta really is both as regards boys and as regards girls. I urged that the next step should be the carrying out of an educational survey of the whole municipal area, and, as a result, Mr. K. C. De was placed on special duty with specific instructions for the drawing up of the survey. When the war broke out, Mr. De's services were requisitioned for other activities, but he decided, in addition to his other labours, to do what he could to carry on the survey which he had begun with considerable vigour, and I understand that though he has not completed his work, which he would have done if he had not been called upon to do other work in connection with the war, he is well on with it, and that before very long, the survey will be submitted.

Government are not in a position to accept the resolution in the terms in which it has been put, because the money is not available and could not

be made available without upsetting elaborately prepared schemes which are already in process of introduction. I admit that these schemes will not go far towards the satisfaction of the numerous needs and the removal of the many defects, but nothing would be gained by cancelling what has already been arranged. Besides we do not really know what the problem in Calcutta is, and until we do know this, I do not see how we can inaugurate a scheme of improvement even if we had the money, which we have not!

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji has said that primary education in Calcutta is only a part of the general problem, and he has emphasized the extreme importance of the issues involved in the problem throughout the Presidency. He has asked that he may be given some light as to what it is generally intended to do. I am rather afraid that in connexion with the general discussion of the budget I shall not be allowed to get through my contribution to the debate without being obliged to say something more about the general problem of primary education. I quite agree with what he said as to the extreme importance of the problem, and I yield to none in my criticism of the many defects of the present system, but I do not propose to discuss the present system as a whole now. What I wish to emphasize now is the difference between the general conditions and those which obtain in Calcutta and the defects which are peculiar to Calcutta. We see in the first place that our primary school system, except so far as it has been modified by the system of District Board lower primary schools in Eastern Bengal, has always been based on the assumption that the pandit will provide himself with a *habitat*. As the Hon'ble mover has reminded us, and as I pointed out before, that system will not work in Calcutta where rents are so high that the pandits cannot provide themselves with premises of even tolerable decency. Hence the unhealthy and deplorable schools to which reference has been made! Consequently, before we can tackle the problem, we have to see exactly where schools are required, and how the construction of these schools can be carried out. I also want to emphasize the great difference in point of fact between the Calcutta municipal area and any area in the mufassal, whether it is under a District Board or a municipality. The municipalities in the mufassal are practically in charge of primary education; they have limited funds and find it difficult to meet their responsibilities, but it is possible to make the needs known to the municipal Commissioners. For example, in Dacca, we have been able to build a few good primary model schools for girls. In Calcutta there is practically no authority to whom such a suggestion could even be made. It is beyond the province of this debate to discuss what sort of machinery we shall have to evolve to deal with the problem of primary education in Calcutta. Whether the municipality should eventually be responsible, or whether there should be another authority—a joint committee, perhaps, of Municipal Commissioners and nominees of Government—is a matter for the future, but it is in my opinion absolutely essential that some sort of local authority should be created for Calcutta. Otherwise, whenever general schemes of improvement are introduced, Calcutta will suffer, simply because of the great complexity of the problem and the greater cost of doing anything. While, therefore, thanking the Hon'ble mover for introducing this topic, I desire to express the regret that Government cannot accept the actual terms of the resolution, but I can assure him that the matter will receive attention, and as soon as we get more facts before us, we shall proceed to deal with the matter. We shall probably refer the matter back to the Corporation, and I do hope that in the course of the next few years something will be done. Nor do I think that action should be postponed because funds may not be now available. The question should be threshed out as soon as possible, then if and when we have funds, there is some chance of our spending them to real advantage."

Resolutions.

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, my object, as I have already stated, is not to ask Government to grant Rs. 50,000, but to raise a discussion on this subject. Mr. Hornell has already explained to the Council that the question of primary education in Calcutta has been very much neglected, and that there is no authority for carrying out any scheme which might be considered desirable. It has also been stated that it is in contemplation to appoint a committee to thresh out the whole subject, and, before the committee is appointed, we are to have a preliminary survey. The matter has been so long before the Government that we are entitled to approach Your Excellency's Government once more, and to ask that it might be expedited, that the survey, which was undertaken by Mr. K. C. De, might be continued by somebody else if Mr. De is not free, and that a committee might be appointed after the survey is completed to thresh out the matter fully. After the assurance that has been given by the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell, I do not wish to press the resolution."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Appendix to the List of Business—Item No. 2—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved the following resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that out of the lump provision of Rs. 9,25,000 for improving popular education, a sum of Rs. 25,000 be set apart for the promotion of female education in Calcutta.

He said :—

"My Lord, female education in Calcutta deserves greater attention from Your Excellency's Government as it is lagging greatly behind and the facilities for female education are very limited. The percentage of girls under instruction in proportion to girls of school-going age was 28·3 last year. It appears that 10,373 girls belonging to all classes received education in Calcutta, out of which 8,872 girls received primary education. For the Christians and the more advanced class of Hindus there are institutions which to some extent, though inadequately, supply the want, but for the orthodox class, both Hindus and Muhammadans, the great want of suitable institutions is keenly felt, and it is mainly for this reason that the cause of female education in Calcutta is suffering so much. The Bethune College, the Victoria Girls' School, the Brahmo Girls' School and a few others, though very excellent institutions, do not meet the requirements of the vast mass of the Hindu and Muhammadan population. There were last year in all 29 upper primary schools with 3,298 pupils and 38 lower primary schools with 2,357 pupils, and these schools again are not quite suitable for efficient education. These primary schools are also housed in insanitary and unsatisfactory buildings. Again many of these schools are not conducted on purely secular lines. The community would like these girls' schools to be conducted either on a secular basis entirely or according to the tenets of their respective religions, for the orthodox community is very zealous of guarding their girls from the proselytizing influence of other religions. The school fee of the Bethune College is too high and prohibitive for the poor middle class people. What is wanted is cheap primary schools for girls in different parts of the town, located in good airy buildings with compounds attached for the girls to play, and a nominal fee, if necessary, charged for education. There is one institution, namely, the Mahakali Pathsala, which is the best model of what a girls' school should be, but it is languishing for want of funds. There is also a dearth of well-trained lady teachers, which should be supplied by training competent teachers. I am very glad to find that the number of the peripatetic zenana teachers has risen from 4 to 7 and the number

of pupils under this tuition from 87 to 159, yet I would respectfully urge the Government to employ a larger number of peripatetic zenana teachers and to make the fact of such employment known to the Indian community, for girls are generally withdrawn from the schools between the ages of 12 and 14, but the craving for education does not cease here, as the community will welcome the zenana teachers in their homes to spread the blessings of education."

The Hon'ble MR. HORNELL said :—

"My Lord, I would refer the Hon'ble mover to the remarks which I have just made in reference to the question of the provision from which he asks that this special assignment may be made. The lump provision of Rs. 9,25,000 for improving popular education includes, as I have already explained, 6 lakhs for the improvement of elementary education for Indian boys, Rs. 1,07,000 for the improvement of the education of Indian girls, and Rs. 1,32,000 for the improvement of hostels, Rs. 31,000 for industrial and technical education, and Rs. 52,000 for European education. The Government of India subsequently made two further assignments of Rs. 1,07,000 and Rs. 30,000, respectively for the education of Indian girls, and the total sum therefore available by way of recurring grants from the Imperial Government for the improvement of the education of Indian girls and women is Rs. 2,44,000. Out of this assignment, which is a recurring one, the following sums have been set aside for Calcutta in accordance with schemes of distribution which have received the sanction of Government, viz. :—

	Rs.
The appointment of an Assistant Inspectress and her establishment	6,487
Additional grants-in-aid for high schools for girls in Calcutta	7,200
Enhanced grants-in-aid to middle schools ...	1,000
Proposed secondary training college for women teachers	40,000
Zenana education	1,000
Muhammadan education for girls	22,000
Primary girls' schools in Calcutta	2,200
Total ...	79,887

It is in fact proposed to spend from the Imperial recurring assignment on the various things connected with the education of Indian girls in Calcutta a greater proportion of the available funds than that for which the Hon'ble Member has asked, but I am glad that he has brought this motion forward, because I do not myself think that the above provision will really affect seriously the problem of Indian girls' schools in Calcutta. As the Hon'ble mover has said, there are a certain number of missionary institutions which are excellent in their way; there are also certain girls' schools, such as the Brahmo Girls' School, the Bethune College and the Victoria Institution, which serve a distinct and valuable purpose, but there is a lamentable lack of proper primary and middle schools for orthodox girls. The difficulties here are much greater than they are in the mufassal, because in the mufassal, at headquarters at any rate, it is not difficult to bring into existence and make fairly efficient a model school for girls under one of the schemes which were evolved in Eastern Bengal by the Female Education Committee. I refer to such schemes as those known as the Urban Girls' School Scheme, by which we can make grants for the purchase of land and the construction of a good school building. As the result of this, a fairly efficient school does

exist at nearly all headquarters. But this is not the case in Calcutta, where the high rents and the excessive cost of land make it almost impossible to start a school. Therefore, I agree with the Hon'ble Member in thinking that the question of the provision of schools for the middle and lower classes of girls in Calcutta is one of great urgency and importance. But I think it is one which, at any rate at this stage, we cannot wholly dissociate from the general problem. Mr. De was asked when preparing his survey to deal with girls' schools as well as boys', and I think that before taking any further step we should see what he says with reference to the existing condition of girls' schools. We want to know how far, for example, primary schools might serve the purpose of both boys and girls.

When the survey is complete, further action must be taken. Whether the committee for which the Hon'ble Member has asked in connection with the problem of primary education of boys in Calcutta, and which I can assure him will be appointed, will be the best body to deal with the question of girls' schools, or whether another committee should be appointed, is a matter for the future, but I can assure the Hon'ble Member that the matter will be taken up and threshed out to some conclusion.

I do not advocate delay, because at the present juncture it may be difficult to find the necessary funds. We must make up our minds as to what the defects are and how they ought to be remedied, and then when funds are available, there is some chance of the money being spent properly. In this connection, I would like to allude to the fact that Government have recently appointed a committee of Hindu ladies and gentlemen to consider the question of education of Indian girls whose parents would desire that their daughters should be well educated, but would resent any interference with their orthodox traditions. Of course this is a special problem, and if from the deliberations of this committee the establishment of a school eventuates, this school will be a special one. But the problem raised by the Hon'ble mover is mainly a local problem. The need is there. What we want to know is how we can best meet it. In this connection, I think I can justly remind the Council of the resolution under which Government recently created the committee to which I have just referred, not because this is really relevant to the question before the Council, but because in that resolution Government made it clear that the problem of the education of the Indian girls is essentially one on which the Muhammadans and Hindus alone can speak. Practically the purport of this resolution was to appoint a committee and to say to it, 'Tell us what you want, and we will then see how far we can provide it.' With reference to the matter now before the Council, I also advocate the co-operation of those who are interested in the problem, for unless people will face the problem, we cannot possibly hope to make any progress. While, therefore, regretting that we are unable to accept this resolution in the terms in which it stands, because funds are not available, I am grateful to the Hon'ble Member for having raised this question, and I can assure him that the matter will be taken up and dealt with."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, it is only right and proper that we should in this Council record our sense of gratitude to the Government for the appointment of the committee to which my Hon'ble friend Mr. Hornell has just referred. The committee is now engaged in its very important labours, and we do not know what the outcome of these labours may be, but I do hope and trust that at least in respect of two matters they will formulate a clear decision. The great need for Calcutta and the province is that our girls—say from the age of 6 to 14—should receive a finished course of education. I do hope that this committee will be able to formulate such a course of education. Then

there is a large number of unemployed widows dependent on their relatives. The struggle for existence is becoming keener and keener now-a-days and the relatives are not always in a position to maintain them. Therefore, some sort of livelihood should be found for them, and I should like to suggest for the consideration of the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell whether technical schools should not be established for the training of widows so that they might be in a position to obtain an independent livelihood for themselves. I think that these are matters of the highest importance as affecting our girlhood and womanhood. I trust that the labours of the committee will lead to the formation of definite propositions which will solve these two great cardinal issues."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, as I have already said in connection with the previous motion, my sole object in bringing forward this resolution is to raise a discussion on the subject. If I may be permitted to narrate an instance, I met a lady friend, a relation of mine, and asked her why she did not send her girls to school. She said that her husband earned only Rs. 40 or 45 a month, and she could not afford to pay for the education of her girls. I told her that she could send her girls to the Bethune College, but she replied that although it was true that the fee there was only Rs. 3 a month, yet she could not afford to pay even that sum. I then suggested that she should send her girls to one of the missionary schools, but she said that she was afraid that the education imparted there was not purely on secular lines. I say this, my Lord, as a humble representative of the community to which I belong, and as I take a deep interest in education, that our womenfolk who are sincerely anxious to educate their girls do not have those facilities which the well-to-do community possess. For the upper class of the Hindu society, the Bethune College affords ample facilities for giving education to their girls; then there is another school, the Brahmo Girls' School. The Indian Christian community have also got schools where they can educate their girls, but for the vast mass of the poor middle class people, including those who are called the depressed classes, there is absolutely no facility for female education in Calcutta. I must say that during the brief space of time that the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell has been the Director of Public Instruction, he has been able to understand and appreciate our needs, and I am very grateful to him for so freely and frankly expressing his opinion on the subject. I am sure the matter will receive careful consideration, and some means will be devised for promoting female education in Calcutta. I am also very grateful to Government for appointing a committee to investigate the subject, and although there are very excellent men on the committee, I venture to suggest that it would be very helpful to the community to take evidence and gather information from different communities, and thereby ascertain the needs—especially in connection with female education—from some of the representative men. With these observations I beg to withdraw the resolution."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Expenditure—Head 32—Miscellaneous.

Appendix to the List of Business—Item No. 3.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved the following resolution :—

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, out of the general reserve of one and-a-half lakhs for unforeseen charges under 32—Miscellaneous, a sum of Rs. 50,000 be made to the Indian Section of the District Charitable Society of Calcutta."

Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur : Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray.

He said :—

"My Lord, the District Charitable Society was established in 1830. It is doing the work which is ordinarily done, I understand, in England by the local bodies from the proceeds of a poor-rate ; but this Society which was founded by Bishop Turner in 1830 has met the wants, to some extent though inadequately, of the poor, invalid and distressed classes of Calcutta. The Society has an income of about Rs. 1,05,600, as shown in the last year's report. It is divided into two sections—one is the European and Christian section, and the other is the non-Christian section. There are also two committees—the first, which is the central one, looks after the needs of the Christian community, and the second, the Indian committee, which looks after the needs of the non-Christian community. Out of the income of Rs. 1,05,600, the grant to the Indian committee was Rs. 27,100 last year. My Lord, this Rs. 27,000 odd comprises Rs. 5,100 received as grants from the Society's general fund, and Rs. 22,000 from the income of trust funds. The Trust Funds are investments of money bequeathed to the Society, by philanthropic persons at the time of their death or on ceremonial occasions, for the benefit of the Christian or non-Christian poor or both.

In the collection to the General Fund, public subscriptions (Indian and European) amount to Rs. 9,300, contributions from the Corporation and other public bodies to Rs. 7,800, and Government subscriptions to Rs. 17,100, and the Indian Committee do not get more than Rs. 5,000 out of these sums. Excluding the public subscriptions, the Indian Committee do not get any portion of the Government or the Corporation contributions.

By their own efforts the Indian Committee collected last year Rs. 2,000 for the benefit of the Indian poor which is not included in the above sums. The population of Calcutta is roughly speaking 36,317 Christians and 806,800 non-Christians ; the ratio of Christians to non-Christians is therefore 1 : 23. It will be seen, my Lord, that the needs of the Indian poor, having regard to the population, are much greater than the needs of the other section of the community, and should receive the support of the Government. My Lord, in last year's report of the Society, I find that the number of paupers on the roll of the Indian committee was 1,314, including dependents, and the amount at the disposal of the committee if divided *per capita* would come up to Re. 1-3-10. It will be seen, therefore, that the committee have been spending their money as sparingly as possible. Besides this, there are funds to help students in education. Here again, perhaps, Mr. Hornell might be interested to know that from the funds for the relief of poor students, the Indian Committee receive Rs. 25 a month from the general funds and the income of the Krist adas Pal Fund (Rs. 10,500), the Raj Nashi Mullick Fund (Rs. 3,000) and the Bolai Chand Mullick Fund Rs. 1,000). It will be seen, therefore, that the Indian section of the District Charitable Society has been trying in its humble way to alleviate the distress of the non-Christian poor according to the funds at their disposal, but, my Lord, if the record of the committee is investigated, it will be found that there are many applications pending which cannot be met owing to lack of funds. Having regard to the population of the non-Christian community in the city, I hope that Government may be pleased to make the grant moved for by me to the Indian section of the District Charitable Society. My Lord, the Indian committee was started in the year 1832, *i.e.*, two years after the establishment of the Society, and in 1849 its Honorary Secretary was Babu Prasanna Kumar Tagore, the uncle of the late Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore, and then he was succeeded by several distinguished gentlemen. The President of the Indian Committee at present is the Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray, and I may add he is not only the President, but also the direct superintendent and controller of the business of the committee. The office is located in his own house. The committee is thus saved Rs. 40 or Rs. 50 monthly as [illegible]. Having regard to these facts, my Lord, I beg earnestly to move on behalf of the non-Christian poor of Calcutta, that

a sum of Rs. 5,000 may be budgetted as a grant to the Indian section of th District Charitable Society."

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY said :—

"My Lord, I have very great pleasure in supporting the motion of th Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

Personally I have been intimately associated with the Society for a ver long time and I can assure the Hon'ble Members of the Council that the fund at the disposal of the Indian Committee entrusted with the relief of distres among the non-Christian poor of Calcutta are far too short of the demand made upon them. The Indian Committee relieve about 700 persons ever month at a cost of over Rs. 30,000 a year. But the amount of distress amon widows and orphans and incapacitated persons among the non-Christians i Calcutta is so large that the funds at the disposal of the committee are bu a drop in the ocean.

The District Charitable Society used formerly to grant to the India Committee half of the Government grant *plus* Indian subscriptions. Th Government grant was formerly Rs. 1,200 a month. It is now Rs. 1,450 month. Out of this sum, together with what the Society receives from th public as subscriptions, the committee receive Rs. 425 a month only The ratio of non-Christian population to the Christian in Calcutta is 23 : 1 It is quite immaterial whether a larger amount is spent for the Christians o for the non-Christians so long as the amount is spent in charity.

The number of non-Christians is however so large that I am strongly i favour of the Government sanctioning the extra grant of Rs. 5,000 a year t the Indian committee as proposed by my Hon'ble friend Rai Radha Chara Pal Bahadur, and I earnestly hope that the Rai Bahadur's proposal wi receive the favourable consideration of this Council."

The Hon'ble MR. STEPHENSON said :—

"My Lord, I am afraid Government cannot accept the resolution whic proposes to reduce our reserve by Rs. 5,000 in order to give a grant of tha amount to the Indian section of the District Charitable Society of Calcutta In the first place, we must object to the reduction of the reserve which is th source from which it is proposed to meet the expenditure. The Hon'bl Member perhaps regards the reserve as a windfall available for expenditur for which we have not been able to make provision in the Budget, but wer it so available I can assure the Hon'ble Member that it would have bee allotted long ago to the many urgent claims which we have had to exclud from our consideration this year. When we are dealing with the Provincia expenditure of over 6½ crores, it will be readily appreciated that it i absolutely impossible to foresee every item of expenditure that circumstance may force upon us during the course of the year. Our estimates of expendi ture are merely guesses based upon experience, and although we hope that, o the whole, they are reasonably exact, there are always certain heads unde which the expenditure exceeds the estimate. I think it will be admitted tha a lakh and-a-half is a very small percentage to keep as a reserve to meet th excesses, and if the Hon'ble Member knew the difficulties which meet th Financial Department when called upon towards the end of the year t provide, for instance, for Additional Sub-Judges or Munsifs, I am sure h would have more consideration for us than to propose to reduce our very small reserve. It must be remembered that no matter how much our income may exceed the estimate we are rigorously tied down in our expenditure t the total amount provided in the Budget. For the last few years we have been able to carry on because we have been able to borrow from the amounts provided but unexpended out of the Imperial grants for Education or Sanitation, but this is only a temporary resource and will cease as soon as the

grants are exhausted, and in any case it will not be available in the coming year. I have gone into this somewhat fully, because I wish to deprecate strongly any attempt to regard this reserve as a means of escaping from the responsibility of proposing definite reduction in expenditure. It looks so easy to propose a reduction under this head that I trust I have convinced Hon'ble Members that the provision is there for a definite purpose and has only been scraped together by the sacrifice of many comparatively urgent proposals, and that a proposal to reduce it really means denying ourselves at a later period of the year some possibly essential requirements, and I hope Hon'ble Members will resist the temptation that its appearance in the Budget offers.

Turning to the other part of the proposal, we must all sympathise with the objects of the District Charitable Society and wish that it had at its disposal all the funds that it needs. But, in the first place, the Indian section is only a committee of the District Charitable Society. Any grant given would therefore naturally be given to the District Charitable Society and it would be left to that Society to devote its funds to the objects which most require them and in regard to which they can be most usefully employed. The main portion of the Hon'ble Member's speech was devoted to a criticism of the division of the funds at the disposal of the Society. This is a matter of internal administration with which I do not think this Council is properly concerned. Government already give a considerable amount of assistance to the Society in regard to its Alms House for which there are special reasons, and gives a grant of Rs. 3,000 a year to its general fund which I believe was originally intended to help to meet the cost of establishment. The question of Government grants to charities is not without difficulties. The duties of Government and the sphere of private charity are entirely separate, though there may be some cases which are on the border-line between the two. Until we advance much further towards socialism than we have done at present, Government are not fitted to do the work of private charity and they have no right to use the tax-payers' money to relieve individual cases of distress. It is better that the money should be left as at present with the tax-payer so that he may acquire for himself the merit that comes from charity. Apart from this question, it must be obvious that if Government once entered into the field of charity it would be impossible for them to discriminate. If Government are to give a grant to relieve the poor of Calcutta they should give a grant to relieve the poor of Dacca and every other place in the province. As I have said, Government are in the fullest sympathy with the work of this and many other charitable societies, and I think that it will be found that so far as the funds which are at our disposal allow and the objects are legitimate objects for expenditure of the tax-payers' money, Government have given a not unsympathetic consideration to all appeals made to them. I would therefore deprecate appeals being made in this Council on behalf of individual charities, and I hope that the Council will not encourage the practice. I have a shrewd suspicion that the Hon'ble Member's resolution is not really meant as a serious attempt to alter the Budget, but is an ingenious method of advertising the merits and needs of the Charitable Society to which the Hon'ble Member is Secretary, in the hope that the publicity given may result in larger subscriptions which are undoubtedly much wanted, and as long as these subscriptions come from the wealth which Government do not exact from the tax-payer, the Hon'ble Member has my hearty wishes for his success."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said:—

"My Lord, I have listened with great interest to the speech of the Hon'ble Member. What I understand is this, that he is not in a position to make this grant. He is not able to differentiate between this Society and other Societies, but my Lord, in this particular case a grant has already been made.

by Government for more than 80 years, and what I submit for the consideration of the Council is this, that out of this grant of Rs. 17,000, nothing is paid to the Indian Committee. We have to meet our own establishment from the trust funds, and then from Rs. 17,000 which is paid as a grant to the Society, we unfortunately do not get anything at all. If therefore at the time when the grant is made, Government were to direct that this grant should be reasonably shared by both sections of the committee, it would to some extent meet the wishes of the Indian section of the committee. I know very well, my Lord, that the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson will not part with a single penny out of the reserve which he has got in his own hands, and it is therefore useless for me to knock my head against a stone wall. Therefore, with the humble prayer I have already submitted, I beg to withdraw my application."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

Expenditure—Head 43—Minor Works and Navigation.

Appendix to the List of Business—Item No. 4.—The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR moved the following resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that, out of the provision of Rs. 7,57,000 for Calcutta and Eastern Canals (Revenue account), under 43—Minor Works and Navigation, or from the general reserve of one and-a-half lakhs for unforeseen charges under 32—Miscellaneous, a sum of Rs. 10,000 be set apart for thorough repairs to canal bank roads belonging to Government situated in the fringe area of the Calcutta Municipality.

He said :—

"My Lord, the Canal West Road running past the canal is in an excessively bad condition, having a narrow metalled surface barely sufficient to carry the heavy traffic, due to trade facilities afforded by the canal. The trade has increased of late, resulting in a consequent increase of revenue to the Public Works Department from the tolls levied on cargo imported and exported by boats.

The Government are the owners of an extensive area of khas mahal lands on the canal side bordering on this road, which is let out to a large number of tenants and which is thickly populated. This area has been improved by the Corporation at a cost of several lakhs, and the Government properties have been considerably enhanced in value. But the canal bank road is not only neglected by Government but continues to grow worse. Public complaints have been loud and deep and the Corporation have addressed the Government on the subject. A private person owning these properties would be hauled up before the Municipal Magistrate and would be dealt with with unfailing severity in the grinding mill of the Town Hall Court. But who dares to prosecute the Government? It would be interesting to watch how the Government would be dealt with by the Magistrate. I beg to submit that as Government this road is resorted to for bringing cargo to the canal, without which the canal would not have yielded any profit to the Government, it is meet and proper that the Government should earmark some money for its efficient maintenance and betterment by widening the metalled surface as would be in keeping with the traffic passing along it. I have gone through all the papers in this connection. The Government have admitted the necessity for widening the metalled surface; but the difficulty as to who will do it stands in the way. In all fairness and in view of the fact that the Government derive a substantial revenue out of the canal to which the road is a necessary adjunct, it is reasonable that the Government should maintain and widen it. If the Government like, it may be transferred to the Corporation after the proposed widening is effected, so that the Corporation may maintain it, the Government contributing the

recurring cost of the maintenance out of revenues realised by the imposition of tolls on cargo transported by boats and rents derived from khas mahal lands."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord, the Public Works Department agree with the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur that the roads in question which run along the crest of the embankments of our canals are not at present in an altogether satisfactory condition. The roads were constructed and are maintained primarily for the traffic connected with the canals, but as Calcutta has spread, a large amount of extraneous traffic now goes along these roads. The Public Works Department maintains a metalled strip of 15 feet in width. This would suffice for the traffic connected with the canal, but is insufficient to meet that traffic *plus* the large extraneous traffic. As the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur has mentioned, correspondence is now going on between the Government and the Corporation regarding the future management, and we hope that some solution will soon be arrived at. Probably the best solution will be that the Corporation should take over the road in view of the fact that probably more than half of the traffic has nothing to do with the canal but is ordinary municipal traffic. For the immediate present, no doubt, the Hon'ble mover wants us to do something and asks that out of the grant of 7½ lakhs we should set aside Rs. 10,000 for these roads. Well, I think that when the Hon'ble mover drafted his resolution, he had not before him a copy of the Public Works Code. If he had referred to volume II of that Code, page 147, he would have seen that the method of budgetting for irrigation works is to provide a lump sum for works of all kinds, *e.g.*, for sluices, earthwork, turfing, and the other numerous items which go to constitute maintenance work in canal operations. This lump sum of Rs. 7,57,000 is spread over 1,115 miles, and among other items is the maintenance of these very roads to which the Hon'ble mover has alluded. The distribution of the lump allotment rests with the Superintending Engineers concerned. In the year 1912-13, the Superintending Engineer allotted not Rs. 10,000 but Rs. 19,000 for these roads. In 1913-14 he allotted Rs. 21,000. In the present year, he has already spent Rs. 15,000 and will probably work up to Rs. 20,000. It is extremely improbable that in the coming year he will allot less than Rs. 20,000. In the circumstances, I think that the Hon'ble Member will not ask us to cut it down to Rs. 10,000."

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I am much obliged to the Hon'ble Member for the lucid explanation which he has given. The Hon'ble Member has informed the Council that Rs. 20,000 has already been spent in improving these roads. I must say therefore that if in spite of this the roads are in such an unsatisfactory condition, I think pride of place must be given to the Calcutta Municipality, although it is condemned on all sides."

The resolution was then, by leave of the President, withdrawn.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to Saturday, the 27th March, at 11 A.M.

A. W. WATSON,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal and

Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA,

The 23rd March 1915.

B. S. Press—28-4-1915—4282J—800—C. A. P.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council, assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Saturday, the 27th March, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble SURGEON GENERAL G. F. A. HARRIS, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. B. CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble JAGADINDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MAHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

[*Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadar: Mr. Cumming: Mr. Samman: Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR :—

Comm of u Reports dinate

1. In regard to the reply given to my (unstarred) question No. XXXI asked at the Council meeting of September 1, 1914, will the Government be pleased to state whether any, and, if so, what decision has been arrived at by Government on the subject of the communication of unfavourable reports to subordinate officers?

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING replied :—

"The matter still rests with the Government of India."

By the Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR :—

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2. (*a*) With reference to the reply given to my (unstarred) question No. XXX asked at the Council meeting of September 1, 1914, will the Government be pleased to state what orders (if any) have been passed on the memorial submitted to Government by certain rate-payers and others of the Darjeeling Municipality praying for the introduction of the elective system in that Municipality?

(*b*) If the prayers of the memorialists have been rejected, will the Government be pleased to state the grounds on which such orders have been passed?

The Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN replied :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The memorial is still under the consideration of Government."

UNSTARRED QUESTION.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Fillin vacanci posts of officers i Courts

1. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the claims of Muhammadans are being overlooked in filling up vacancies to the posts of ministerial officers in the Civil Courts at Noakhali?

(*b*) Is it a fact that the District Judge of Noakhali, when recently appointing copyists to posts in the grade of Rs. 30, overlooked the claims of Muhammadan paid probationers?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Government are not prepared to accept the statement contained in the first part of the Hon'ble Member's question. There was a vacancy recently in one of the ministerial posts of the Civil Courts at Noakhali and it was filled up by the promotion of a Hindu clerk; but the latter was several years senior to the Muhammadan candidates and better qualified for the post.

(*b*) The facts are that there were recently three vacancies which were filled up by the promotion of one Muhammadan and two Hindu copyists. These men were selected in preference to probationers because they were 8 or more years senior to, and had better educational qualifications than any of, the latter. Two of them only accepted posts as copyists, on the assurance that they would not thereby forego their claim to permanent appointments, and the third was merely confirmed in a post in which he had already acted for twelve months."

[*Mr. Beatson Bell.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

BENGAL BUDGET FOR 1915-16.

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL presented the Budget of the Government of Bengal for 1915-16.

He said :—

In accordance with our rules of procedure I beg to lay upon the table the Budget of this Government for 1915-16.

BUDGET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, 1915-16.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

FINANCE.

Dated Calcutta, the 26th March 1915.

MEMORANDUM.

IN accordance with Rule 33 (1) of the Bengal Legislative (Financial Statement) Rules, 1912, published with Notification No. 4482 F., dated the 10th December 1912, the Budget will be presented to the Council on the 27th March 1915.

2. No change has been made in the figures as included in the Revised Financial Statement. An Appendix C has been added, as usual, to show the transactions of District Boards and the District Road Fund (Darjeeling), although this does not form part of the Provincial Budget proper.

3. The Members in charge of the different departments would be much obliged if, in accordance with the practice in previous years, Hon'ble Members will give as early intimation as possible of any points which they may desire to raise, in order that information may be collected regarding them.

N. D. BEATSON BELL.

BUDGET OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, 1915-16.

PART I.—General Review.

(1) ACCOUNTS FOR 1913-14.

WHEN the revised estimate for 1913-14 was laid before the Council on the 26th March 1914, the receipts of the year were estimated at Rs. 6,16,70,000 and the charges at Rs. 6,25,70,000, while the anticipated closing balance was Rs. 3,04,30,000. The accounts of the year, which have now been finally closed, show that the actual receipts amounted to Rs. 6,21,41,172 and the charges to Rs. 6,16,60,630, while the closing balance was Rs. 3,18,11,112. The receipts were therefore better by Rs. 4,71,172, this improvement having occurred chiefly under Stamps (Rs. 1,55,416), owing to larger duty on probate and letters of administration and to settlement proceedings; Excise (Rs. 1,88,578), attributed to the prosperous conditions of the year; Assessed Taxes (Rs. 68,958), caused by the favourable trade conditions of 1912-13 which swelled the profits of the coal and jute companies; Registration (Rs. 46,144), due to the favourable economic conditions of the year leading to a more rapid extension in the demand for registration; Ports and Pilotage (Rs. 36,604), chiefly under Pilotage fees, the revised estimate for which was under-estimated; and Miscellaneous (Rs. 90,760), partly contributed by larger lapse of unclaimed deposits than had been anticipated and partly by special recoveries on account of service payments of previous years. The actual charges were less by Rs. 9,09,370, mainly under Education (Rs. 3,97,485) and Medical (Rs. 19,511), chiefly owing to non-utilization of the Imperial grants for education and sanitation, respectively, to the extent anticipated in January; Stationery and Printing (Rs. 53,594), due to smaller consumption of stationery; Miscellaneous (Rs. 1,28,582), for smaller expenditure in gratuitous relief in flooded areas; Civil Works in charge of Public Works Department (Rs. 1,55,615), due to savings in the grants for original works, to the reduction of stock and recovery of amounts advanced to contractors for manufacture of bricks; and lastly under Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department (Rs. 2,55,737), owing to smaller grants to municipalities for expenditure on sanitation.

(2) REVISED ESTIMATE, 1914-15.

2. The revised estimate for 1914-15 as now passed, on the basis of the actuals of the first nine, and in some cases eleven, months of the current year, is compared below with the sanctioned estimate for the year :—

	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Better (+) or worse (−).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance ...	3,04,30,000	3,18,11,000	+13,81,000
Revenue receipts ...	5,72,11,000	5,51,47,000	−20,64,000
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial	+57,84,000	+68,59,000	+10,75,000
Total receipts ...	6,29,95,000	6,20,06,000	−9,89,000
Grand Total ...	9,34,25,000	9,38,17,000	+3,92,000
Total expenditure ...	7,35,93,000	6,56,86,000	+79,07,000
Closing balance ...	1,98,32,000	2,81,31,000	+82,99,000

3. The increase under Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues is due to the following additional assignments from Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.
Assignment for provincialization of salaries of Civil Veterinary Department ...	+29,000
Assignment for non-realization of small recovery claims of freights, etc., on stores from England in the office of the Agent for Government Consignments ...	+6,000
Additional assignment for Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation to serological enquiry	+10,000
Assignment for purchase of copies of Indian Household Reference Chart and Indian Household Emergency Chart	+2,000
Further non-recurring grant for Dacca University	+1,00,000
Smaller assignment for cost of forms for Bihar and Orissa Government (Rs. 2,15,000 against Rs. 2,32,000)	-17,000
Smaller assignment for cost of forms for Assam Administration (Rs. 94,000 against Rs. 1,29,000)	-35,000
No recovery from Bihar Government in connection with fishery experiments against Rs. 11,000 originally proposed ...	-11,000
Transfer from Provincial to Imperial Revenues for net gain for premises No. 9, Hare Street, made over to Provincial Government for management ...	-9,000
Assignment for grant to the Calcutta University for hostels	+10,00,000
	+10,75,000

4. The decrease of revenue is the net result of decreases under some heads and increase under others. The decreases aggregate Rs. 29,66,000 and are chiefly under the following heads :—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 6,81,000), due to smaller collections owing to the slackness of jute trade and non-realization of the anticipated collections of suspensions of 1913-14.

Stamps—(Rs. 10,50,000), caused by dislocation of business and trade caused by the war.

Excise—(Rs. 3,00,000), attributed to the present crisis which has affected consumption.

Forests—(Rs. 2,90,000), caused by smaller sales of timber owing to difficulty experienced in financing the timber trade.

Registration—(Rs. 2,50,000), due to the decrease in the number of registrations.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 33,000), due to smaller fines in magisterial courts and smaller recoveries of court-fees realized in cash.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 1,91,000), due to dislocation of trade caused by the war.

Education—(Rs. 50,000), the budget was fixed rather high.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 43,000), due to stoppage of jute traffic in the Calcutta and Eastern Canals and to the silting up of the Manikdah Entrance Channel and consequent blockage of traffic in the Madaripur Bhil route and to remission of water rates in the Eden Canal.

The increase, on the other hand, amounts to Rs. 9,02,000, and is mainly under the following heads :—

Assessed Taxes—(Rs. 4,00,000), attributed to the favourable trade conditions of 1913-14 which swelled the profits of some of the coal and jute companies and many banks.

Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments—(Rs. 2,43,000), caused by larger sale of quinine and to the credit here of ⅓ths of the sale-proceeds of quinine treatments.

Stationery and Printing—(Rs. 36,000), due to the sale of waste-paper and unserviceable materials from the Dacca Jail Press on its removal to Gaya.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 97,000), due chiefly to larger anticipated lapse of deposits.

Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department—Rs. 85,000), due to larger collections of rent on Government buildings and larger proceeds from sale of Government buildings.

5. On the expenditure side the revised estimate shows a total decrease of Rs. 97,69,000, and is chiefly under the following heads :—

Stamps—(Rs. 1,00,000), due to reduction in the price charged by contractors for the supply of stamp paper and also to smaller payment of discount for smaller sales.

Excise— Rs. 1,36,000), due to savings in the lump grants for reorganization of the department and for the construction of steam-launches.

Forests—(Rs. 43,000), due to lapse of the provision for new boilers for the steam-launches *Hauck* and *Helen Grey* of the Sundarbans Division, and savings in the grant for stores, communications and improvements as well as under salaries.

Registration—(Rs. 48,000), due to lapse of the provision for reorganization of establishment of District offices and revision of the cadre of District Sub-Registrars.

Police— Rs. 5,18,000), due to savings in the grant for non-recurring charges for River Police and reorganization of the Eastern Bengal District Police.

Ports and Pilotage—(Rs. 1,65,000), due to smaller payments to pilots owing to the partial suspension of trade and to non-payment of Rs. 75,000 provided provisionally for the purchase of a grab dredger at Chittagong.

Education—(Rs. 60,20,000), due to savings in the Imperial grants for both recurring and non-recurring expenditure.

Medical—(Rs. 17,58,000), due to savings in the grant for sanitation and non-utilization of the grant for equipment of the School of Tropical Medicine, as well as the transfer of a portion of the grant for Sanitation and the School of Tropical Medicine to the Public Works Department and other heads.

Agriculture—(Rs. 2,10,000), due to lapse of the lump provision for extra fieldmen-demonstrators and apprentices, savings in the grants for sericultural experiments, experimental farms, seed stores, salaries of the Botanic Gardens, and in the lump non-recurring grant for improvements.

Stationery and Printing—(Rs. 88,000), due to adjustment by reduction of expenditure of the sale-proceeds of the machinery of the Dacca Jail Press taken over by the Bihar and Orissa Government for the Gaya Jail.

Miscellaneous—(Rs. 6,33,000), due to the adjustment of grants made by His Excellency to the appropriate heads, to the reappropriations of the reserve provision to meet expenditure under other heads, to the transfer of charges for grain allowance to the different departments by reappropriation from the lump provision under this head and savings in the grant for gratuitous relief.

On the other hand, there was a total increase in expenditure of Rs. 18,62,000, the largest items of which are noted below :—

Land Revenue—(Rs. 42,000), for larger expenditure under Salaries owing to the recall from leave of officers of the Indian Civil Service.

General Administration—(Rs. 55,000), due to several officers having been placed on special duty in the Secretariat.

Courts of Law—(Rs. 3,51,000), due to the same reason as under Land Revenue, to larger payments to pleaders for fees in connection with political cases, arrear pay on account of the revision of the Subordinate Judicial Service, and to the debit of grain allowance charges by transfer from 32—Miscellaneous.

Jails—(Rs. 3,62,000), for increased expenditure under rations and larger purchase of raw materials for the preparation of manufactures.

Superannuations—(Rs. 53,000), for larger grant for commutation of pensions.

Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 2,78,000), for grant for the purchase of a dredger.

Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department—(Rs. 5,02,000), chiefly for larger grants to local funds for works of sanitary improvements by transfer from Medical and larger provision for augmentation grants.

Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department—(Rs. 2,41,000), due to additional grants for land acquisition in connection with the David Hare Training College at Ballyganj and the Bethune College, Calcutta.

6. The net result of these changes is that the closing balance of 1914-15, which was estimated at Rs. 1,98,32,000 in March last, is now estimated at Rs. 2,81,31,000. The increase is chiefly due to smaller expenditure under Police, Education, Medical and Agriculture, as mentioned above, and to the assignement of 10 lakhs for Calcutta University hostels.

(3) BUDGET ESTIMATE, 1915-16.

7. The opening balance of 1915-16 is the closing balance of 1914-15, and is therefore Rs. 2,81,31,000.

8. The estimates for the year, as approved by the Government of India, show receipts aggregating Rs. 6,18,07,000, an expenditure of Rs. 6,58,29,000, and a closing balance of Rs. 2,41,09,000. Out of the special grant of 50 lakhs for the Calcutta Improvement Trust, which has appeared in the accounts since 1903-04, 40 lakhs have already been paid to the Trust, and the balance 10 lakhs will be paid in 1915-16. Of the estimated closing balance, the following are earmarked for special expenditure :—

	Rs.
Minimum balance	20,00,000
Balance of discretionary grant	10,49,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for Education ...	87,11,000
Ditto ditto Police ...	8,50,000
Ditto ditto Sanitation ...	40,49,000
Ranchi Lunatic Asylum	25,00,000
Amount earmarked for provincial equipments for the three years 1916-17 to 1918-19 ...	24,00,000
Grant promised to Belgatchia Hospital ...	5,00,000
Total ...	2,20,62,000

The difference between Rs. 2,41,09,000 and Rs. 2,20,62,000=20,47,000 is the free balance available for new expenditure in the near future.

9. The total estimated charges for 1915-16 amount to Rs. 6,58,29,000, which is in excess of the income by Rs. 40,22,000, owing mainly to the following provisions :—

	Rs.
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	10,00,000
Non-recurring expenditure of the Education Department from Imperial grants	18,00,000
Non-recurring expenditure of the Police Department from Imperial grants	4,00,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for the Agricultural Department	20,000
Balance of the Imperial grant for Medical relief ...	20,000
Equipment for the School of Tropical Medicine	50,000
Additional grant for the management of Government estates	50,000
Grant for gratuitous relief	50,000
Lump grant for Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department	4,88,000

10. In the exceptional circumstances of the present year it has been found impossible to provide for the regrant of all the unexpended balances of the Imperial grants for Education, Sanitation, Police and discretionary grants. Under the orders of the Government of India, the budget had been prepared on the basis that the Provincial receipts cover all the charges and that the Provincial balances are not available for expenditure in 1915-16. Consequently, only the recurring grants for Education and Sanitation could be provided, but subsequently the Government of India have allowed a deficit of Rs. 40,22,000, including the special non-recurring grant of ten lakhs, to the Calcutta University for hostels recently sanctioned and provision has been made for the non-recurring charges mentioned in the paragraph above.

11. A schedule is attached showing the new schemes, costing individually more than Rs. 5,000 in any one year, which have been included in the budget. The non-recurring charges on account of these schemes amount to Rs. 17,820, and the recurring charges to Rs. 2,99,950. Besides these, the budget includes the following new schemes of a more or less petty nature :—

(*a*) NON-RECURRING CHARGES.

	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue—		
Purchase of a boat for the Collector of Rajshahi	2,500	
Opening of two bridle roads in the Chittagong Hill Tracts... ...	21,751	
Pay of a Special officer for revising the Survey and Settlement Manual for six months	4,032	
		28,283
Excise—		
Purchase of typewriter for the Calcutta office	500	
Purchase of typewriter for the Darjeeling office	450	
Instruments for dram measures for retail country spirit shops ...	3,600	
		4,550
Forest—		
A playground for the Kurseong Forest School	1,000	
Construction of a rest-house at Raman	2,000	
Construction of a rest-house at Shishomukh in the Chittagong Hill Tracts	2,000	
		5,000
General Administration—		
Temporary establishment in the Bengali Translator's office ...	1,200	
Purchase of typewriter for the Bengal Librarian	100	
Purchase of typewriters for the offices of the Divisional Commissioners ...	1,085	
		2,685
Courts of Law—		
Preservation of memorial portraits, High Court	2,000	
Temporary establishment for Public Prosecutor, Calcutta	1,128	
Purchase of typewriter for Presidency Magistrate's Court ...	400	
		3,528

Jails—

	Rs.	Rs.
Pay of travelling auditor and his peon and travelling allowance ...	2,896	
Purchase of a typewriter for Inspector-General's Tour office ...	400	
Purchase of blankets for undertrial prisoners	4,241	
		7,537

Police—

Purchase of a typewriter for the Criminal Investigation Department ...	368	
Provision for replacing four unserviceable typewriters for District Offices	1,500	
Supply of first kit, etc., for the reconstitution of town police, Rampur-Boalia	488	
		2,356

Medical—

Temporary establishment for the Cholera Ward of Campbell Hospital	836	
Purchase of an epidiascope ...	1,500	
		2,336

Political—

Provision for settling the boundary along the Mechi		1,000

Agriculture—

Temporary establishment for jute forecast work and their travelling allowances		4,300

Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments—

Provision for Secretariat Clerkship examination		800

Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers—

Purchase of two new ferry boats for Mymensingh Sadar and one for Jamalpore	2,004	
Repairs of ferry ghats, Ranaghat, Basirhat and Baduria	1,225	
Purchase of a new iron ferry boat for Gauri ghat	1,800	
Repairs of three cattle boats in Midnapore	800	
		5,829

(*b*) RECURRING CHARGES.

Land Revenue—

Local allowance to the establishment of Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	2,500	
Revision of elephant establishment of the Deputy Commissioner of Jalpaiguri	480	
Local allowance of the Personal Assistant to the Director of Land Records	1,200	
		4,180

General Administration—

	Rs.	Rs.
Increase of pay of the Auditor for the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	600	
Revision of establishment of Private Secretary to Governor	1,704	
Revision of establishment of Military Secretary to Governor	2,276	
Daily allowance of the Indian Aide-de-Camp	750	
Increase of salary of the Chief Secretary to Government ...	1,800	
Increase of establishment for the Commerce Branch of the Secretariat	3,000	
Lump provision for revision of the establishment of the Board of Revenue	2,500	
Revision of elephant establishment of the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division	672	
		16,302

Courts of Law—

One shorthand-writer for High Court ...	1,800	
Pay of Additional Public Prosecutor, Hooghly	600	
Additional grant for contingencies of Jorabagan and Kyd Street Police Courts	3,000	
Provision for rewards for Arms Act cases	6,360	
Provision for rewards for arrest of armed and unarmed dacoits ...	2,000	
		13,760

Jails—

Pay of Deputy Superintendent, Dacca Central Jail	3,000	
Pay of Mechanic Mistri, Dacca Central Jail	720	
Pay of Electric Mistri and Blacksmith, Dacca Central Jail	780	
Grant of Terai allowance to the warders of the Darjeeling district ...	1,080	
		5,580

Police—

Allowance to steno-typist of the office of the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta	480	
Pay of two driver mechanics for the motor prison van	1,420	
Staff for the new Police Hospital, Chinsura	2,260	
Feed and keep of four buffaloes at Sarda	480	
Cash guard for Eastern Bengal State Railway, Sealdah	3,000	
Reconstitution of the town police, Rampur-Boalia	1,911	
Staff for Sara-Serajganj Railway ...	1,014	
Pay of lascars for 4 floating quarters for Inspectors of River Police ...	1,440	
Additional grant for Country Stationery	5,000	
Appointment of a jamadar mahout for the Deputy Commissioner of Jalpaiguri ...	600	
Allowance to Military Assistant Surgeon and Civil Assistant Surgeon of the Police Training College for teaching Medical Jurisprudence and First Aid	720	

Police—concluded.

	Rs.	Rs.
Rent of telephone connection between Barrackpore Police exchange and police-stations at Naihati, Jagatdal, etc.	1,280	
Subsidy to the Military Police band ...	2,400	
		22,005

Ports and Pilotage—

Allowance to surveyors for carrying out periodical examination of Government vessels in Calcutta	2,160	
Allowance to surveyors for carrying out periodical examination of Government vessels at Chittagong	720	
		2,880

Education—

Conveyance allowance of Director of Public Instruction	1,200	
Appointment of Inspecting Maulvis	1,848	
Appointment of female attendants for Inspectresses	3,040	
Appointment of shorthand typist for the Presidency College	900	
Larger grant for teaching music in Dow Hill School	1,048	
Rent for "Jims lodge" occupied by the Master of Cookery Class, Dow Hill School	1,200	
Cost of Cookery Class, Dow Hill School	1,680	
		10,916

Medical—

Provision for revision of establishment of General Hospital ...	1,000	
Appointment of an additional Resident Sub-Assistant Surgeon, Campbell Hospital	780	
Appointment of Pathologist, House Medical Officer and Anæsthetist of Sambhunath Pandit Hospital ..	3,000	
Pathological laboratory and other expenses of Sambhunath Pandit Hospital	1,700	
Lady Superintendent of Swarnamoyee Hostel	1,800	
Provision for revision of establishment of the Medical College	2,052	
		10,332

Political—

Additional clerk for the Political Agent	...	480

Agriculture—

Appointment of a District Agricultural Officer	1,200	
Appointment of additional agricultural supervisors	4,800	
Appointment of three additional laboratory assistants	4,500	
Appointment of five clerks for agricultural supervisors	1,800	
Establishment for the second Deputy Director of Agriculture	1,284	

	Rs.	Rs.
***Agriculture*—concluded.**		
Additional clerk for the Rangpur Dairy Farm	360	
Additional establishment for Seed Stores	600	
Additional establishment for Sericultural Nurseries	4,000	
Grant for Co-operative Journal ...	1,200	
		19,744
***Stationery and Printing*—**		
Personal allowance of the Manager, Darjeeling Branch Press		600
***Miscellaneous*—**		
Grant to the Lady Minto Nursing Association, Chittagong		1,500

12. Appendix C shows the transactions of District Boards and District Road Fund, Darjeeling. This statement does not form any part of the Provincial Budget, which is annexed thereto for convenience of reference.

PART II.—Detailed remarks on the Budget for 1915-16.

RECEIPTS.

13. *Land Revenue.*—The total collections in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 2,80,28,537, and the estimate for 1915-16 as passed by the Government of India is Rs. 2,91,49,000 against Rs. 2,84,80,000, the revised estimate for 1914-15. The estimate includes Rs. 17,92,000 for recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges against Rs. 15,58,000, the revised estimate for 1914-15.

The estimated Provincial share of Land Revenue is calculated as follows :—

	Estimate, 1914-15.	Revised estimate, 1914-15.	Estimate, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Land Revenue ...	2,96,64,000	2,84,80,000	2,91,49,000
Deduct—Estimated collections from Government Estates (wholly Provincial) ...	47,00,000	40,50,000	44,37,000
Deduct—Recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	2,000	2,000	.....
Deduct—Recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges (wholly Imperial) ...	20,24,000	15,58,000	17,92,000
Total Deduction ...	67,26,000	56,10,000	62,29,000
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial revenues	2,29,38,000	2,28,70,000	2,29,20,000
Provincial share, one-half ...	1,14,69,000	1,14,35,000	1,14,60,000
Add—Collections from Government Estates (wholly Provincial)	47,00,000	40,50,000	44,37,000
Add—Recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars (wholly Provincial)	2,000	2,000	.....
Total Provincial receipts	1,61,71,000	1,54,87,000	1,58,97,000

14. *Stamps.*—The revenue from Stamps for 1914-15 was estimated at Rs. 2,23,00,000. The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 2,19,10,831, and the collections in the first eleven months of 1914-15 show a decrease of Rs. 14,54,000 as compared with the actuals of the corresponding period of the preceding year. The receipts under this head show improvement up to the end of July 1914, but steadily declined from August, owing to dislocation of business and trade caused by the war. Some decrease is also anticipated in the last month and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 2,02,00,000. It is anticipated that the decrease will not continue in 1915-16, but there might be a small increase of one lakh and the budget for that year has been placed at Rs. 2,03,00,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,01,00,000 for 1914-15 and Rs. 1,01,50,000 for 1915-16.

15. *Excise.*—The budget estimate of the total revenue under this head for 1914-15 was placed by the Government of India at Rs 1,58,00,000. The actuals of 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 1,53,88,578, and those of the first ten months of 1914-15 show a small increase of Rs. 1,82,000 only over the actuals of the corresponding period of the preceding year. The present crisis has affected consumption in the chief jute-growing districts and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 1,55,00,000; and allowing for a progressive increase of 5 lakhs, the estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 1,60,00,000. The treasury price of opium will be raised to Rs. 40 per seer from 1st April 1915, and the duty on ganja will be raised from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20. On the other hand, owing to the rise in price of opium and to the war, a large decrease in consumption is anticipated. The receipts under this head are wholly Provincial.

16. *Provincial Rates.*—The collections from the Public Works Cess are now being surrendered to District Boards. Under General Rates for the management of Private Estates, the estimate of receipts for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,10,000, which is the same as the revised estimate for 1914-15. The actuals of 1913-14, which included collections of arrears, were Rs. 1,31,310.

17. *Assessed Taxes.*—The budget estimate of receipts from Income-tax for 1914-15 was Rs. 61,00,000. The actual collections in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 66,37,916 and collections in the first eleven months of the year 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 4,26,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year. The increase is attributed to the favourable trade conditions of 1913-14, which swelled the profits of some of the coal and jute companies and many of the banks. The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been passed for Rs. 69,00,000. Owing to the war in Europe the conditions of trade are now unfavourable, and the profits of bankers and industrial concerns will be greatly affected during 1914-15. As the assessment for 1915-16 will be based on the profits of 1914-15, the estimate for that year has been placed at a reduced sum of Rs. 61,00,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 31,50,000 and Rs. 30,50,000 respectively.

18. *Forests.*—The total receipts under this head for 1914-15 were estimated at Rs. 16,00,000 against Rs. 16,16,111, the actuals of 1913-14. The collections in the first eleven months of 1914-15 show a decrease of Rs. 2,69,000 as compared with those of the corresponding period of last year. The sales of timber have declined owing to the difficulty experienced in financing the timber trade and to a diminution of the purchasing power of jute cultivators who are large customers for *sâl*, and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 13,10,000. Allowing for an increase of Rs. 1,40,000 in 1915-16, the estimate has been passed for Rs. 14,50,000. The Conservator anticipates a substantial increase in 1915-16.

19. *Registration.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 20,50,000 against Rs. 20,16,144, the actuals of 1913-14. The actual collections in the first nine months of the year 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 12,69,000 and for the remaining three months of the year the receipts have been taken at Rs. 5,31,000 and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 18,00,000. The revenue under this head underwent considerable fluctuations up to August

1914, and has since that month declined steadily owing to the slackness of the jute trade. Allowing for an increase of one lakh, the estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs 19,00,000.

20. *Interest.*—The estimate of loans provides for a return, in the way of interest during 1915-16, of Rs. 5,29,000 against Rs. 4,62,000 in 1914-15 as shown below :—

	Revised estimate, 1914-15.	Estimate, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.
Interest on advances to cultivators, etc.	55,000	50,000
Interest on advances to Co-operative Credit Societies	3,000	2,000
Interest on drainage and embankment advances	9,000	14,000
Interest on loans to landholders ...	1,59,000	1,60,000
" " " to Municipalities and District Boards, etc. ...	2,09,000	2,90,000
Miscellaneous	27,000	13,000
Total ...	4,62,000	5,29,000

The decrease under Miscellaneous is due to the payment of the interest on arrears of the Public Works Cess to the District Boards.

21. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 8,42,811, while the receipts in the first nine months of 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 9,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year. The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 8,62,000, and the estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 9,13,000. The increase is chiefly under fees, fines and forfeitures.

22. *Jails.*—The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 6,71,917, but the receipts in the first eight months of the year 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 52,000 as compared with those of the corresponding period of last year, and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs 7,31,000. It has been decided that two-fifths of the receipts from the sale of quinine packets should be taken under this head instead of one-fifth as before. The sale-proceeds of quinine treatment, which were credited to the head Medical, are also from 1914-15 credited to this head and to the Cinchona Department in the proportion of 2 : 3. The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 7,60,000.

23. *Police.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 1,77,000 against Rs. 1,56,684, the actuals of 1913-14. The receipts in the first nine months of 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 25,000 over those of the corresponding period of last year on account of larger receipts from the Motor Cycle Act, and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 1,87,000. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,86,000.

24. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 16,76,604, while the budget estimate for 1914-15 was originally passed for Rs. 17,16,000. The actual collections in the first nine months amounted to Rs. 11,06,857 and for the last three months of the year the receipts have been taken at Rs. 4,18,143, and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 15,25,000. The decrease is under Pilotage receipts and is due to the reduction in the number of vessels entering and leaving the Calcutta port in consequence of the dislocation of trade caused by the war. The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 16,20,000 and provides for a receipt of Rs. 72,000 for the hire by the Government of India of the steamer *Guide* for station duty at Port Blair against Rs. 30,000 provided for in the revised estimate on the same account.

25. *Education.*—The actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 8,10,953, and the budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 8,62,000. This has been reduced to Rs. 8,12,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the current year, which amounted to Rs. 5,68,321, against Rs. 5,65,585 obtained in the corresponding period of last year. The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 8,86,000, and includes Rs. 24,000 from fees of the residential school for Indian boys at Hastings House, Calcutta, and Rs. 16,000 on account of fees and fines from Madrassas, which were hitherto credited to the Mohsin Fund.

26. *Medical.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 3,97,000 and included Rs. 50,000 under Medicines sold by Civil Surgeons. This included the sale-proceeds of quinine treatments prepared by the Juvenile Jail and sold through the agency of Civil Surgeons, which are now readjusted by credit to the Jails and Cinchona Departments in the proportion of 2 : 3, with effect from 1914-15. Against this decrease, there was an increase under Hospital receipts and College fees, and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 3,75,000. The budget for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 3,80,000, and includes larger receipts from college and school fees.

27. *Agriculture.*—Under the orders of the Government of India the head Scientific and other Minor Departments has now been divided into two heads —(*A*) Agriculture, which includes the items, Veterinary and Stallion receipts; Agriculture, Botanical and other gardens, and receipts on account of public exhibitions and fairs, while the other items have been classified under (*B*) Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments. The budget estimate for 1914-15 under Agriculture was Rs. 85,000, but this has been reduced to Rs. 78,000 in the revised estimate, the actuals of 1913-14 having been Rs. 78,756. The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 82,000 and includes larger receipts from the Veterinary Department.

28. *Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 1,87,000 against Rs. 1,98,925, the actuals of 1913-14. The actuals in the first eight months of 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 4,10,000 (of which Rs. 3,73,000 represented the sale-proceeds of cinchona and its products against Rs. 1,50,000, the estimate for the whole year). This special increase is due to the credit of three-fifths of the sale-proceeds of quinine treatments sold through the agency of Civil Surgeons and to the large sale of quinine sulphate, of which a large stock was laid in, in 1912-13. The increase is also partly due to the credit of fees for registration of Joint Stock Companies, which were hitherto credited to the head Registration. The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 4,30,000, but as such large receipts may not continue in 1915-16, the estimate under this head has been passed for Rs. 3,53,000, providing for Rs. 3,00,000 as receipts from cinchona, against Rs. 3,71,000 anticipated in 1914-15.

29. *Receipts in aid of Superannuation.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 39,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 42,000 in view of the actual collections in the first nine months of the year, showing an increase of Rs. 3,500. The estimate for 1915-16 has however been passed for Rs. 40,000.

30. *Stationery and Printing.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 1,20,000 against Rs. 1,37,862, the actuals of 1913-14, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 1,56,000 in view of the actual collections in the first nine months of the year. The increase is attributed to the sale of waste-paper and unserviceable materials from the Dacca Jail Press on its removal to Gaya. The estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 1,32,000.

31. *Miscellaneous.*—The receipts for 1914-15 were estimated at Rs. 5,92,000 against Rs. 7,68,760, the actuals of 1913-14, which included Rs. 6,01,162 from unclaimed deposits. The budget estimate under this sub-head was Rs. 4,80,000, but in the revised estimate it has been raised to Rs. 5,55,000, and the total receipts to Rs. 6,89,000. The estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 6,90,000 and includes Rs. 5,80,000 for unclaimed deposits.

32. *Irrigation. Major Works (Direct Receipts.)*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 2,67,000 against Rs. 2,46,579, the actuals of 1913-14. The actual collections in the first ten months of 1914-15 show a decrease of Rs. 24,000 and the revised estimate has been placed at Rs. 2,40,000. The decrease is due to restricted traffic on account of the silted condition of the Hijili Tidal Canal and smaller export of rice through the Midnapore Canal. The revised estimate has been repeated for the budget for 1915-16. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 1,20,000 for both the years.

33. *Irrigation. Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 6,10,000 against Rs. 5,65,040, the actuals of 1913-14. The actual collections in the first nine months of 1914-15 show a decrease of Rs. 27,000 and the revised estimate for the year has been placed at Rs. 5,24,000. The decrease is chiefly due to stoppage of jute traffic in the Calcutta and Eastern Canals and Madaripur Bhil route, as well as smaller receipts from tollage on steamers in the latter, also for smaller collections from water-rate in the Eden Canal. The Magra Hât Drainage is now complete and increased receipts are expected from this canal, and the estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 5,70,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 2,62,000 in 1914-15 and to Rs. 2,85,000 in 1915-16.

34. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 3,85,000 against Rs. 1,31,258, the actuals of 1913-14. The actuals of the first nine months of 1914-15 show an increase of Rs. 35,000 and the revised estimate has been passed for Rs. 4,70,000. The increase is due to the growth of receipts from rent of Government buildings and larger sale-proceeds of buildings. The estimate for 1915-16 has been placed at Rs. 4,25,000.

35. *Transfer between Imperial and Provincial.*—This is a new head opened under the orders of the Government of India to show the net assignments to or from Provincial Revenues in place of the major head "Land Revenue—Adjustments" which was included under the major head of Land Revenue. The estimate includes the following transfers from Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.
Contribution for Famine Relief Scheme	60,000
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust for 60 years ...	1,50,000
Recurring assignment in connection with remission of appropriations from Public Works Cess	21,93,000
Recurring grant for Sanitation	5,00,000
Contribution to meet charges of Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry ...	35,000
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers in municipalities	39,000
Contribution to meet the cost of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners	19,000
Recurring assignment for the Belgachia Veterinary College ...	30,000
Recurring assignment for provincialisation of salaries of Civil Veterinary Department	29,000
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with Fishery Department	9,000
Recurring grant for Dacca University	45,000
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University for five years from 1914-15	1,00,000
Recurring grant for popular education	9,25,000
Recurring grant for aided English Secondary Schools ...	1,50,000
Recurring grant to the Church Missionary Society College, Calcutta	6,000

	Rs.
Recurring grant for the extension of education among poorer classes of the domiciled community	40,000
Recurring grant for the improvement of female education ...	30,000
Recurring grant for the development of the work of the Calcutta University	65,000
Recurring grant for education	13,20,000
Further recurring grant for education	1,50,000
Assignment in connection with Scientific Research of Dr. J. C. Bose	9,000
Assignment for the cost of forms etc., for the Assam Administration	1,05,000
Assignment for grant to the Chittagong Port Fund for 5 years from 1913-14	75,000
Recurring assignment for recovery claims of the office of the Agent, Government Consignments	11,000
Contribution for recovery of cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court Fees Act ...	6,000
Recurring assignment for pensions of title-holders ...	3,000
Recurring assignment for remission of certain recoveries from local bodies	26,000
Recurring grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art Section of the Indian Museum with the Calcutta School of Art	1,000
Assignment for Traffic Registration Office, Bhairab Bazar ...	1,000
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa Government towards pay of Electrical staff	8,000
Total ..	64,40,000

The estimate also includes the following transfers from Provincial to Imperial Revenues :—

	Rs.
Recurring fixed adjustment under the terms of the Settlement	7,28,000
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa Government for grants to Colleges	21,000
Recurring grant to Bihar and Orissa for law charges formerly paid by this Government	15,000
Recurring adjustment for No. 9, Hare Street	9,000
Total ...	7,73,000

The net assignment from Imperial Revenues is Rs. 64,40,000 — 7,73,000 = Rs. 56,67,000.

EXPENDITURE.

36. *Refunds and Drawbacks.*—The total Provincial expenditure in 1915-16 is estimated at Rs. 1,41,000, against Rs. 1,35,000, the Budget estimate for 1914-15, and Rs. 1,35,656, the actuals of 1913-14. The estimates under this head are based, as usual, on the average actuals of the previous three years, excluding special payments. The actuals of 1911-12 included a special payment of Rs. 6,000 under Land Revenue for an erroneous credit given in 1910-11 for cost of maps, and those of 1912-13 a special payment of of Rs. 8,000 under Stamps. The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been placed at Rs. 1,64,000 and includes special payments of Rs. 12,000 for license fees under Excise in Darjeeling, and of Rs. 8,000 for refund of Income-tax to a Russian Trading Company.

37. *Assignments and Compensations.*—The budget estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 43,000, but this has been reduced to Rs. 32,000 in the revised estimate owing to smaller payments of Malikana. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 42,000 which provides for actual claims.

38. *Land Revenue.*—The total provincial expenditure for 1915-16 is estimated at Rs. 36,66,000, against Rs. 35,75,000, the revised, and Rs. 35,33,000, the Budget estimate for 1914-15 as shown below :—

	1914-15		1915-16
	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Charges of District Administration ...	27,01,000	28,60,000	28,48,000
(2) Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	10,000	17,000	21,000
(3) Management of Government Estates ...	5,68,000	4,58,000	5,28,000
(4) Survey and Settlement...	2,13,000	1,81,000	2,00,000
(5) Land Records ...	41,000	59,000	66,000
Total ...	35,33,000	35,75,000	36,66,000

The estimate under (1) provides for larger grant under salaries of Magistrates, etc., as no leave will ordinarily be given to the Indian Civil Service Officers during the war, for the continued operation of the temporary time-scale rate of minimum pay recently sanctioned for members of the service, for increased grant for travelling allowances of officers, for diet and travelling allowances to witnesses, and for remuneration to copyists. The increase in the revised is due to additional expenditure under Salaries owing to the recall of Indian Civil Service Officers from leave. The decrease in the revised estimate under (3) is due to lapse of provision for improvements in Government estates.

39. *Stamps.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 7,52,000, but in view of the decrease under receipts and consequent smaller payments of discount and the favourable terms for the supply of stamp paper, the revised estimate has been reduced to Rs. 5,51,000. The Controller of Stamps and Stationery has reported that under the new agreement with the contractors for the supply of stamp paper, the provision of some of the items have been reduced by 50 per cent., and that the cost of demy paper has also been much reduced. The budget for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 6,05,000 and follows the anticipated increase under receipts. The charges of this department are divided equally between the Imperial and Provincial revenues and the Provincial share amounts to Rs. 2,76,000 and Rs. 3,03,000, respectively.

40. *Excise.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 8,77,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 7,41,000 as the grant for the reorganization of the department will not be fully utilized, and out of the sum of Rs. 50,000 for the construction of launches, Rs. 20,000 only will probably be spent. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 8,02,000 and includes 1½ lakhs for the reorganization of the department, Rs. 20,000 for the construction of boats and launches, and Rs. 5,000 for the construction of quarters.

41. *Provincial Rates.*—The cost of collections of the cesses and the valuation and revaluation charges are debited in the first instance to the head "3—Land Revenue—Charges of District Administration," but ultimately recovered from District Boards and the recoveries, including pension contributions, are taken in reduction of expenditure under that head.

42. *Assessed Taxes.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 1,51,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 1,54,000 owing to higher grade pay of the Deputy Collector and to the payment of leave allowances to Assessors in Calcutta. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,52,000. The Provincial share is one-half and amounts to Rs. 77,000 and Rs. 76,000, respectively.

43. *Forests.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 7,27,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 6,84,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is due to the provision for new boilers of the launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey* not having been utilized. The provision for the construction of certain roads also has not been utilized in full. The budget for 1915-16 amounts to Rs. 6,66,000 and includes provision for the supply of new boilers referred to above and for the anticipated return of senior officers from leave. The decrease in 1915-16 is due to exclusion of special expenditure on roads and buildings.

44. *Registration.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 11,99,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 11,51,000 owing to the non-utilization of the lump provision for revision of the cadre of District Sub-Registrars, and the establishment in District Offices, and to the transfer of the provision for the new Registrar of Joint Stock Companies to "26B—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments." The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 11,23,000, and does not provide for revision of establishment.

45. *Interest on Ordinary Debt.*—This is interest payable from the Provincial revenues to the Imperial revenues on the amount advanced by the latter to the Local Government for loans to cultivators, under the Agriculturists' Loans and Land Improvements Loans Acts, for advances to Co-operative Societies, for advances on drainage and embankment schemes, for loans to notabilities and to municipalities and other public corporations (excluding Presidency Corporations).

46. *General Administration.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 23,53,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 24,08,000. The increase is partly under staff and household of the Governor, owing to the increased charges on account of establishment, travelling allowances and contingencies, for the separation of the offices of the Private Secretary to Governor and Military Secretary to Governor, and partly under Civil Secretariat, chiefly for the charges on account of officers on special duty on the recall of Indian Civil Service Officers from leave. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 23,74,000 and generally follows the budget for 1914-15 with additions under staff and household for the reasons given above, and under Civil Secretariat for increase of salary of the Chief Secretary and increased establishment sanctioned for the Education and Commerce branches for increase of work.

47. *Law and Justice—Courts of Law.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 99,53,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 1,63,01,000 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The increase is chiefly under Law Officers owing to larger payment of pleaders' fees in connection with the several political cases and partly under Civil and Sessions Courts, owing to arrear payments on account of revision of the Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned towards the close of 1913-14, and partly under Criminal Courts owing to recall of Indian Civil Service Officers from leave as explained under "3—Land Revenue." The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,01,24,000. It includes full provision for the sanctioned number of High Court Judges, Inspector of Judicial Offices, Registrar of Insolvency, and Additional Sub-Deputy Collectors for appointment as Circle Officers, larger provision for fees to pleaders in criminal and civil suits in the mufassal, larger grants for rates and taxes and contingencies of the Presidency Magistrates' Courts owing to the division of Courts in three places, and for the payment of rewards in Arms Act cases, and for the arrest of both armed and unarmed dacoits.

48. *Jails.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 20,76,000, but the actuals in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 22,62,882, and the revised estimate for 1914-15 has been raised to Rs. 23,78,000 with reference to the actuals of the first eight months of the year. The increase is chiefly due to larger dietary charges and a larger outlay on the purchase of raw materials. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 21,95,000. The decrease is due to small provision for dietary charges and purchase of raw materials as compared with the figures for the revised

49. *Police.*—The following table shows the figures under this head :—

Heads.	Actuals, 1913-14.	1914-15. Budget.	1914-15. Revised.	Estimate, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Presidency Police ...	15,95,085	17,23,000	17,08,000	17,45,000
Superintendence ...	3,15,607	2,62,000	2,85,000	2,34,000
Criminal Investigation Department ...	4,78,209	4,95,000	5,56,000	5,31,000
District Executive Force	64,64,986	80,74,000	72,21,000	73,87,000
Village Police ...	34,020	30,000	5,000	8,000
Special ,, ...	2,52,748	2,42,000	2,56,000	3,01,000
Railway ,, ...	3,26,214	3,19,000	3,46,000	3,25,000
Cattle-pounds ...	236	250	500	250
Refunds	3,976	2,750	2,500	3,750
Lump deduction ...	.....	—2,50,000	.....	.....
Total ...	94,71,081	1,08,98,000	1,03,80,000	1,05,35,000

The revised estimate for 1914-15 has been framed with reference to the actuals of the first eight months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to partial utilization of the lump provisions for additional police and reorganization of the subordinate police in the Eastern Bengal districts and to savings in the allotment for river police. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,05,35,000 and includes—

	Rs.
Presidency Police—	
Increased staff for registration of motor vehicles	8,580
Increased staff for Barabazar Thana	11,420
District Police—	
Revision of boat establishment in Eastern Bengal districts	49,000
Appointment of Second Personal Assistant of the Inspector-General of Police	20,000
Reorganization of the Subordinate Police of Eastern Bengal districts	10,000
Reorganization of the River Police	40,222
Non-recurring expenditure from Imperial grants for reorganization and River Police, viz., for launches and buildings, etc.	4,00,000
Crew for the new launch for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Munshiganj ...	4,000
Staff for new Police Hospital, Chinsura ...	2,260
Reconstitution of Town Police, Rampur-Boalia ...	2,399
Increase of staff at Dhanbad Railway Police ...	1,448
Increased staff for division of East Indian Railway Jurisdiction	6,618
Armed Police, Pabna, Malda and Bogra ...	9,384
Headquarters treasury guards	5,692

50. *Ports and Pilotage.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 15,39,000, but in the revised this has been reduced to Rs. 13,71,000, owing to smaller payments to the pilots due to the partial suspension of trade owing to the war and to the lapse of the provision of Rs. 75,000 for grant to the Chittagong Port Fund for a grab dredger which was not sanctioned. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 14,76,000, and provision has been made for normal expenditure of the department with reference to requirements. It includes the Government grant of Rs. 1,50,000 to the Chittagong Port Fund.

51. *Education.*—The total Provincial expenditure in 1914-15 was estimated at Rs. 1,45,43,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 85,23,000 with reference to the actual charges in the first ten

months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to savings in the grants from Imperial Revenues which were not fully utilised. During the year the Government of India sanctioned an additional non-recurring grant of one lakh for five years for the Dacca University and a non-recurring grant of 10 lakhs for the Calcutta University for hostels, which have not been utilised. The budget grant for 1915-16 is Rs. 1,05,62,000, and is thus compared with the actuals of the past three years.

HEADS.	ACTUALS.			1914-15.		1915-16.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14.	Budget.	Revised.	Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
University	66,028	5,15,000	1,78,500	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,15,000
Direction	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,51,032	1,67,000	1,62,000	1,58,000
Inspection	8,04,480	7,82,598	7,83,208	7,89,000	9,05,000	8,00,000
Government Colleges, General ...	8,17,976	8,50,209	8,55,924	8,99,000	9,82,000	9,12,000
Government Colleges, Professional	3,35,128	4,00,575	3,57,324	3,72,000	3,60,000	3,54,000
Government Schools, General ...	14,38,548	19,81,325	22,81,411	11,73,000	20,59,000	11,97,000
Ditto, Special ...	5,75,620	5,98,433	5,78,827	6,88,000	6,99,000	6,09,000
Grants-in-aid	14,28,094	17,24,594	20,99,939	15,06,000	27,53,000	15,06,000
Scholarships	2,19,049	2,24,401	2,41,638	2,44,000	2,46,000	2,44,000
Miscellaneous	2,17,307	1,20,518	6,42,200	1,40,000	3,25,000	1,44,000
Refunds	2,454	1,097	2,512	2,000	2,000	3,000
Lump provision for non recurring expenditure ...	...	...	...	5,11,000	...	...
Lump provision for hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca ...	...	...	...	2,17,000	...	8,00,000
Lump provision for hostels in Calcutta	...	...	...	8,70,000	...	
Expenditure from the non recurring assignment of 75 lakhs...	...	...	...	30,00,000	...	
Lump provision for improving popular education ...	...	...	...	11,72,000	...	9,25,000
Lump provision for regrant of savings of 1912-13 ...	...	...	...			...
Lump provision for secondary education	...	...	...	1,28,000	...	1,50,000
Lump provision for female education (recurring) ...	...	...	...	30,000	...	30,000
Expenditure of the recurring grant	...	...	...	25,20,000	...	13,20,000
Further recurring grant ...	...	...	...	1,50,000	...	1,50,000
Dacca University and hostels (non recurring)	...	...	...	3,00,000	...	1,00,000
Dacca University and hostels (recurring)	...	...	...	45,000	...	45,000
Calcutta University for hostels (non recurring)	...	...	...	...	...	10,00,000
Lump deduction	...	...	...	—5,00,000	...	...
Total ...	61,21,873	73,76,829	81,12,515	1,45,43,000	85,23,000	1,05,62,000

The budget for 1915-16 includes the following items of expenditure :—

	Rs.
Assistant Professor for Philosophy, Presidency College	4,800
Shorthand-typist, Presidency College	900
Higher pay for the Lady Principal, Bethune College	2,400
Female attendants for Inspectress and Assistant Inspectress of Schools	3,040
Remuneration of authors and publishers in connection with the preparation of Urdu Readers for girls	2,000
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University recently sanctioned by the Government of India ...	1,00,000
Non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grants for past years (details not settled) ...	4,00,000
Non-recurring expenditure out of the Imperial grants for past years in connection with the Calcutta University Institute and the Baker hostel ...	4,00,000
Grant to the Calcutta University for Hostels ...	10,00,000
Cost of Cookery class, Dow Hill School	1,680

The Imperial grants are likely to be expended in 1914-15, thus :—

	Budget grant.	AMOUNT LIKELY TO BE SPENT DURING 1914-15.		Total probable expenditure.
		Under Education.	Under "45—C. W. (P. W. D.)"	
Non-recurring.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Non-recurring expenditure	5,11,000	11,000	1,23,000	1,34,000
Hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca	2,17,000	28,000	53,000	81,000
Non-recurring Imperial assignments ...	30,00,000	4,46,000	10,67,000	15,13,000
Dacca University ...	3,00,000	1,000	10,000	11,000
Hostels in Calcutta ..	8,70,000	1,15,000	1,26,000	2,41,000
Recurring.				
Dacca University ...	45,000	.....	.....	.....
Imperial assignment ...	25,20,000	4,47,000	1,05,000	5,52,000
Popular education ...	11,72,000	7,86,000	1,50,000	9,36,000
Secondary Aided Vernacular Schools ...	1,28,000	1,28,000	.....	1,28,000
Female education ...	30,000	10,000	.....	10,000
Recurring grant ...	1,50,000	60,000	.....	60,000
Total ...	89,43,000	20,32,000	16,64,000	36,96,000

52. *Medical.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 47,81,000, but this has been reduced to Rs. 30,23,000 in the revised estimate with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. The decrease is chiefly due to savings in the grant for works of sanitary improvements and also to the transfer of a portion of the grant which was made to Municipalities and District Boards to the head "15.—Civil Works in charge of Civil officers" and a portion to "45.—Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department." The sum of Rs. 50,000 given to the Provincial Government by the Indian Research Fund for jungle-clearing was refunded to that body in 1914-15 as the amount could not be spent in the way suggested. Many of the Indian Medical Service officers have reverted to the Military Department, and this also caused some savings in expenditure. The budget for 1915-16 amounts to Rs. 36,13,000 and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Lump grant for expenditure on Works of sanitary improvements (Imperial recurring grant) ...	5,00,000
Lump grant being the amount allowed in the Provincial settlement	4,50,000
Lump grant for Medical Relief, being the unexpended Imperial grant	20,000
Lump grant for the School of Tropical Medicine, being the unexpended Imperial grant ...	13,000
Lump grant for equipments of the school ...	50,000
Lump grant for the State Medical Faculty ...	10,000
Lump grant for the Bengal Council of Medical Registration	10,000

The grants for Presidency Hospitals are shown below :—

	Salaries.	Establishment.	Allowances.	Clothing and bedding.	Diet.	Other supplies.	Contingencies.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Medical College Hospital	50,910	19,228	200	90,000		1,11,000	87,662	3,59,00
General Hospital ...	67,920	10,096	1,360	77,000		36,600	48,024	2,41,00
Campbell Hospital ...	14,520	27,528	11,000	36,000		18,000	33,952	1,41,00
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...	5,400	3,576	180	17,000		1,200	7,644	35,00

53. *Political.*—The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 30,000 against Rs. 29,00 the budget estimate for 1914-15. The increase is under Miscellaneous f lump provision for demarcation of boundaries as the question of the settlemer of the whole boundary along the Mechi is under consideration.

54. *Agriculture.*—The heads "Scientific and other Minor Departments has now been divided under the orders of the Government of India into tw Major heads "Agriculture" and "Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments. Under the former head Veterinary, Agriculture, Botanic and other publi gardens, Bacteriology and Co-operative Societies are shown, while all th other minor heads are now shown under "Scientific and Miscellaneou Departments." The estimate under the former head for 1914-15 wa Rs. 11,86,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 9,76,00 with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of the year. Th decrease is chiefly under expert staff owing to lapse of the provision for extr fieldmen, under Sericulture owing to savings in the grant for experiments an large savings in the non-recurring grant for agricultural improvements The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 11,17,000 and includes the following item of expenditure :—

	Rs.
Cost of printing postcard forms for reporting cattle diseases	1,000
Cost of an officer under training in the Veterinary College	6,480
Cost of a Veterinary Assistant to be in charge of Government elephants in Jalpaiguri	1,400
Cost of temporary establishment for Jute forecast work	4,300
One District Agricultural Officer	1,200
Additional Supervisors	4,800
Cost of three Laboratory Assistants	4,500
Clerks for Agricultural Supervisors	1,800
Additional Fieldmen Demonstrators	6,000
Cost of two Inspectors for the Co-operative Department	2,400
Lump provision for revision of establishment for the office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies ...	6,476

55. *Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.*—The estimate for 1914-1: was Rs. 5,44,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced tc Rs. 5,28,000. The decrease is chiefly owing to smaller expenditure in the Factories and Fisheries Departments and savings in the grants for Gazetteers as the work of revision has not yet been completed. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 5,05,000 and includes provision for Assistant Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies, Rs. 3,600 ; carp culture by Fishery Department, Rs. 2,000 ; experimental culture in Sundarbans fisheries, Rs. 2,000 ; and fishery yarn, Rs. 2,000.

56. *Superannuation.*—The charges under this head rise year after year owing to increase in the number of claims to pension. The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 32,31,000, but in the revised this has been raised to Rs. 32,84,000 as the allotment for the commuted value of pensions has been raised from Rs. 75,000 to Rs. 1,50,000. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 34,29,000 and includes 2 lakhs for the commutation of pensions.

57. *Stationery and Printing.*—The following table shows the charges under this head :—

Heads.	Actuals, 1913-14.	Budget estimate, 1914-15.	Revised estimate, 1914-15.	Budget estimate, 1915-16.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Forms Department at the Presidency ...	59,712	71,000	62,000	.....
Stationery purchased in this country ...	25,965	25,000	29,000	28,000
Government Presses ...	6,36,085	6,84,000	6,00,000	6,94,000
Printing at private presses	2,505	2,000	3,000	3,000
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	7,58,232	6,60,000	6,60,000	6,60,000
Refunds	2,907	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total ...	14,85,406	14,44,000	13,56,000	13,87,000

The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 14,44,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 13,56,000, chiefly owing to the adjustment by reduction of expenditure under the head Government Presses of Rs. 69,000, being the sale-proceeds of machinery, etc., supplied by the Dacca Jail to the Gaya Jail Press. The provision for overtime allowance to the clerks of the Forms Branch was not required in 1914-15, and hence the decrease under that minor head. That branch has now been amalgamated with the Jail Press, and the charges are now included under Government Presses. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 13,87,000. No provision has been made for the Dacca Jail Press which has been abolished, while Rs. 6,000 has been included for the improvement of the Confidential Section of the Secretariat Press.

58. *Miscellaneous.*—The estimate for 1914-15 is Rs. 10,81,000, but in the revised this has been reduced to Rs. 4,48,000. The reduction is due to the adjustment, under appropriate heads, of expenditure sanctioned by His Excellency from the provision for petty grants, of charges for grain compensation allowance and to the reappropriation of the reserve provision of Rs. 1,50,000 in order to meet expenditure under other heads and the savings in the allotment of Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief in the flooded districts. Against these transfers and savings additional charges were incurred under Special Commissions of Enquiry on account of the Port Development Committee and District Administration Committee. Special grants of Rs. 5,000, Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 2,500 have been sanctioned for the construction of a female vagrant ward within the compound of the Government Alms House, for the extension of the Calcutta Orphanage and to the Salvation Army respectively. The budget for 1915-16 is Rs. 10,16,000, and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Allotment for petty grants by His Excellency ...	1,00,000
Ditto for payment of grain compensation allowance	1,00,000
Gratuitous relief	50,000
General reserve for unforeseen requirements ...	1,50,000
Guarantee charges for telegraph lines	10,000

59. *Irrigation Major Works (Working expenses).*—The actual expenditure in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 2,97,789 and the estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 2,96,000, but in the revised estimate this has been reduced to Rs. 2,58,000 with reference to the actuals for the first eight months of the year. The decrease is chiefly under "Maintenance and Repairs of the Midnapore Canal." The estimate for 1915-16 has been passed for Rs. 2,67,000. The Provincial share (one-half) amounts to Rs. 1,29,000 and Rs. 1,33,000 respectively.

60. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Civil Department.*—The budget for 1914-15 was Rs. 8,000, but owing to the adjustment under Public Works Department of expenditure on bandalling the Ganges near Rampore-Boalia by transfer from this head the revised estimate has

been reduced to Rs. 2,000. The budget for 1915-16 has been placed at the same amount, and the Provincial share for both the years 1914-15 and 1915-16 amounts to Rs. 1,000.

61. *Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 22,38,000 against Rs. 19,24,457, the actuals of 1913-14. During the year additional grants aggregating six lakhs was sanctioned for the purchase of dredging plant required for the maintenance and improvement of waterways, but Rs. 19,250 has been placed at the disposal of the District Board of Bakarganj as Government contribution for re-excavation of the Damoda channel by the District Board. The revised estimate now stands at Rs. 27,94,000. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 22,92,000, and includes the following items :—

	Rs.
Construction of an escape in the first reach of the Midnapore canal	11,000
Acquisition of land required for working the dredger *Foyers*	50,000
Second supply sluice and other works in connection with the Eden Canal	20,000
Training works in the river Ganges between Digha and Damukdia	35,000
Training works in the Dhaleswari and Burigonga rivers	60,000
Maintenance and repairs of the Mogra Hât drainage	40,000
Flood damage repairs to embankments	1,00,000
Works to mitigate the effects of the Damodar floods	35,000
Raising the Damodar left embankment	70,000
Concrete mattress protection at Diamond Harbour	70,000

The Provincial share (one-half) amounts to Rs. 13,97,000 for 1914-15 and Rs. 11,46,000 for 1915-16.

62. *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 89,59,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 92,00,000 for expenditure of the special grants for land acquisition in connection with the David Hare Training College at Ballygan and the Bethune College, Calcutta. The estimate for 1915-16 is Rs. 64,88,000 which is distributed thus :—

	1914-15.		1915-16
	Budget.	Revised	Budget
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Original works ...	55,59,000	54,86,000	28,88,000
Repairs ...	21,83,000	22,95,000	22,00,000
Establishment ...	11,47,000	12,40,000	13,50,000
Tools and plants	70,000	89,000	50,000
Stock and suspense	.....	90,000	.....
Total ...	89,59,000	92,00,000	64,88,000

The grants for repairs, establishment and tools and plants have been fixed at the lowest sum possible, and large reductions had to be made in the grant for original works. As the whole of the available money is required for works in progress, there is no money to allot for new works. Rupees 3,00,000 has been allowed to Heads of Departments for Minor Works grant against Rs. 4,25,000 for 1914-15, and the amount is distributed thus :—

	Rs.
Education	56,000
Medical	38,000
Registration	12,000
Police	38,000
Calcutta Police	12,000
Jails	30,000
Excise	8,000
Courts of Law	8,000
Commissioners of Divisions	66,000
Residences of Local Government	20,000
Public Works Reserve	18,000
Total ...	3,00,000

63. *Civil Works in charge of the Civil Department.*—The estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 20,77,000, but in the revised estimate this has been raised to Rs. 25,79,000, partly for larger augmentation grants to District Boards but chiefly for grants for water-works and sanitation for which provision was made under "Medical." The estimate for 1915-16 amounts to Rs. 22,09,000 and includes the following :—

	Rs.
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	11,50,000
Special grants for feeder roads	40,000
Augmentation grant	7,30,500
Grant for the improvement of roads in Government estates	69,559
Special grants at the disposal of the Divisional Commissioners	1,00,000
Ditto ditto District Magistrates ...	52,000
Lump provision for pay of sub-overseers in connection with rural water-supply	5,000

No provision has been made under this head for grants for works of sanitary improvements which are now being provided for wholly in the Medical budget. The following are the principal items sanctioned or earmarked for the works of sanitary improvements in the year 1914-15 :—

	Rs.
Bhadreswar drainage	1,000
Jessore District Board for improvement of rural water-supply	1,415
Narainganj water-supply	1,00,000
Extension of Munshiganj water-works ...	7,200
Experiments on Calcutta sewage	17,275
For sanitary improvement of the town of Chittagong, and for the pay of the Sanitary Engineer, Chittagong Municipality	20,000
Improvement of Berhampore water-works ...	40,000
Rajbari drainage	2,639
Baruipur drainage	1,950
Hooghly-Chinsurah water-works	50,000
Kushtia drainage	3,450
Cost of employment of Sanitary Inspectors by Municipalities	2,700
English Bazar water-supply	40,000
Bakarganj water-supply	5,000
Construction of a *pucca* drain in North Barrackpore Municipality	4,000
Dacca Municipality for conservancy	7,500
Utterpara water-supply	44,815
To Panihati Municipality for constructing subsidiary drains in connection with the Bagjolla drainage scheme	7,246
To North Dum-Dum Municipality for constructing subsidiary drains in connection with the Bagjolla drainage scheme	10,433
Asansol water-supply	62,000
Contribution towards the pay of the Special officer in charge of the Conservancy Department, Dacca Municipality	840
Sanitary improvement, Gaibandha	8,000
Calcutta Corporation for the drainage of the fringe area	42,017
Chandpur water-supply	60,000
Suri drainage scheme	11,000
Nadia District Board for the preliminary survey in connection with the improvement of the rivers Bagerkhal and Jamuna	600

Bengal Provincial Revenue.

RECEIPTS.	ACTUALS.			1914-15.		1915.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budg estim
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	R
Opening balance ...	*	1,66,25,000	3,13,30,270	3,04,30,000	3,18,11,000	2,81,3
Principal Heads of Revenue—						
I—Land Revenue	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,56,99,108	1,61,71,000	1,54,87,000	1,58,9
IV—Stamps	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,09,55,416	1,11,50,000	1,01,00,000	1,01,5
V—Excise	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,53,88,578	1,58,00,000	1,55,00,000	1,60,0
VI—Provincial Rates	31,71,872	32,02,152	1,31,340	1,18,000	1,10,000	1,1
VIII—Assessed Taxes	26,73,534	27,75,826	33,18,958	30,50,000	34,50,000	30,5
IX—Forests	13,87,465	16,00,601	16,16,111	16,00,000	13,10,000	14,5
X—Registration	17,33,694	18,23,161	20,16,144	20,50,000	18,00,000	19,0
Total ...	4,47,94,174	4,95,96,736	4,91,25,655	4,99,39,000	4,77,57,000	4,85,5
XII—Interest	5,22,205	5,00,713	4,29,999	4,87,000	4,62,000	5,2
Receipts by Civil Department—						
XVI—Law and Justice—						
A—Courts of Law	7,60,777	8,14,901	8,42,811	8,95,000	8,62,000	9,1
B—Jails	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,71,947	7,23,000	7,31,000	7,6
XVII—Police	1,87,675	2,39,082	1,56,684	1,77,000	1,87,000	1,8
XVIII—Ports and Pilotage	16,95,556	17,52,191	16,76,604	17,16,000	15,25,000	16,2
XIX—Education	7,33,249	7,77,676	8,10,953	8,62,000	8,12,000	8,8
XX—Medical	3,62,977	4,26,733	4,20,307	3,97,000	3,75,000	3,8
XXIA—Agriculture	68,912	79,644	78,756	85,000	78,000	8
XXIB—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments	1,68,141	1,38,287	1,98,925	1,87,000	4,30,000	3,5
Total ..	48,08,711	49,31,867	48,56,987	50,42,000	50,00,000	51,8
Miscellaneous—						
XXII—Receipts in aid of Superannuation ...	43,158	48,210	58,886	39,000	42,000	4
XXIII—Stationery and Printing	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,37,862	1,20,000	1,56,000	1,3
XXV—Miscellaneous	6,35,371	7,72,339	7,68,760	5,92,000	6,89,000	6,9
Total ...	8,08,954	9,40,652	9,45,508	7,51,000	8,87,000	8,6
Irrigation—						
XXIX—Major Works (direct receipts) ...	1,39,063	1,36,959	1,23,290	1,33,000	1,20,000	1,2
XXX—Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department ...	3,34,186	3,20,105	2,82,520	3,05,000	2,62,000	2,8
By Civil Department ...	25,015	24,925	24,421	25,000	25,000	2
Total ...	4,98,264	4,81,989	4,30,231	4,63,000	4,07,000	4,3
Buildings and Roads—						
XXXI—Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department ...	4,62,320	3,85,036	4,34,258	3,85,000	4,70,000	4,2
By Civil Department ...	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,66,034	1,44,000	1,64,000	1,5
Total ...	6,17,583	5,27,559	6,00,292	5,29,000	6,34,000	5,8
Transfer between Imperial and Provincial	*	+1,46,73,885	+57,52,800	+57,84,000	+68,59,000	+56,6
Total ...	5,20,49,891	7,16,53,401	6,21,41,472	6,29,95,000	6,20,06,000	6,18,0
GRAND TOTAL ...	.....	8,82,78,401	9,34,71,742	9,34,25,000	9,38,17,000	8,99,3

* The Opening balance and Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues for new Bengal cannot be worked out.

Bengal Provincial Expenditure.

EXPENDITURE.	ACTUALS.			1914-15.		1915-16.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
nand on the Revenues—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Refunds and Drawbacks	1,55,124	1,41,035	1,35,656	1,35,000	1,64,000	1,41,000
Assignments and Compensations ...	37,647	50,905	27,159	43,000	32,000	42,000
Land Revenue	35,09,257	32,36,128	34,40,775	35,33,000	35,75,000	36,66,000
Stamps	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,61,566	3,76,000	2,76,000	3,03,000
Excise	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,25,743	8,77,000	7,41,000	8,02,000
Provincial Rates	50,187	39,209	.....	.....	.....	.....
Assessed Taxes	78,116	76,469	77,288	75,000	77,000	76,000
Forests	6,74,033	6,60,794	6,40,157	7,27,000	6,84,000	6,66,000
Registration	10,67,406	10,50,903	11,26,558	11,99,000	11,51,000	11,23,000
Total ...	63,68,070	62,09,785	64,34,902	69,65,000	67,00,000	68,19,000
Interest on Ordinary Debt ...	5,10,365	4,42,546	4,39,897	4,34,000	4,40,000	4,40,000
id Expenses of Civil Department—						
General Administration	37,35,022	25,46,712	24,29,759	23,53,000	24,08,000	23,74,000
Law and Justice { Courts of Law ...	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	1,00,37,547	99,53,000	1,03,04,000	1,01,24,000
Law and Justice { Jails ...	20,51,332	19,61,832	22,62,892	20,76,000	23,78,000	21,95,000
Police	87,08,211	83,99,859	94,71,081	1,08,98,000	1,53,80,000	1,05,35,000
Ports and Pilotage	13,27,925	12,16,009	14,28,577	15,39,000	13,74,000	14,76,000
Education	61,21,873	73,76,829	81,12,515	1,45,43,000	85,23,000	1,06,62,000
Medical	26,14,743	26,42,133	28,50,459	47,81,000	30,23,000	36,13,000
Political	22,622	38,976	32,975	29,000	28,000	30,000
Agriculture	8,71,154	7,72,137	9,06,776	11,86,000	9,76,000	11,17,000
Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments	6,09,784	8,91,816	5,19,023	5,44,000	5,28,000	5,05,000
Total ...	3,62,07,386	3,54,85,703	3,80,51,394	4,79,02,000	3,99,22,000	4,25,31,000
ions—						
Superannuation, etc.	27,85,637	29,25,688	31,00,288	32,31,000	32,84,000	34,29,000
Stationery and Printing	15,79,021	13,34,429	14,85,406	14,44,000	13,56,000	13,87,000
Miscellaneous	5,60,371	4,25,610	5,87,418	10,81,000	4,48,000	10,16,000
Total ...	49,25,029	46,85,727	51,73,112	57,56,000	50,88,000	58,32,000
Relief and Insurance—						
Reduction or avoidance of Debt ...	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
(Revenue Accounts)—						
Subsidised Companies—Land, etc. ...	.....	—363	579	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	60,000	59,637	60,579	60,000	60,000	60,000
—						
Major Works—						
Working expenses	1,38,543	1,17,858	1,48,895	1,48,000	1,29,000	1,33,000
Interest on Debt	1,70,650	1,75,618	1,69,993	1,69,000	1,70,000	1,70,000
Minor Works and Navigation—						
By Public Works Department ...	7,80,399	7,68,153	9,62,228	11,19,000	13,97,000	11,46,000
By Civil Department	1,954	965	982	4,000	1,000	1,000
Total ...	10,91,546	10,62,594	12,82,098	14,40,000	16,97,000	14,50,000
and Roads—						
Civil Works—						
By Public Works Department ...	61,51,896	63,21,755	76,44,385	89,59,000	92,00,000	64,88,000
„ Civil Department	30,27,729	26,80,384	25,74,263	20,77,000	25,79,000	22,09,000
Total ...	91,79,625	90,02,139	1,02,18,648	1,10,36,000	1,17,79,000	86,97,000
Total Charges ...	5,83,42,021	5,69,48,131	6,16,60,630	7,35,93,000	6,56,86,000	6,58,29,000
Closing Balance ...	*	3,13,30,270	3,18,11,112	1,98,32,000	2,81,31,000	2,41,09,000
GRAND TOTAL ...		8,82,78,401	9,34,71,742	9,34,25,000	9,38,17,000	8,99,38,000
rincial surplus (+) or deficit (—) ...	.....	+1,47,05,270	+4,80,842	—1,05,98,000	—36,80,000	—40,22,000

* Please see remarks on the receipt side.

APPENDIX A.

Bengal Provincial Receipts, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those which have been passed by the Government of India.]

The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained, refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.

1.—Land Revenue—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Gross Land Revenue	2,71,72,317	2,79,87,155	2,80,28,537	2,96,64,000	2,84,80,000	2,91,49,000	
Deduct collections from Government estates which are wholly Provincial ...	43,30,589	47,70,855	42,77,344	47,00,000	40,50,000	44,37,000	Decrease in the revised is due to smaller collections owing to the slackness of the jute trade and non-realization of the anticipated collections of suspensions.
Deduct recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary marks wholly Provincial ...	.....	.....	938	2,000	2,000	.....	
Deduct recoveries of Survey and Settlement charges which are wholly Imperial	48,564	6,29,962	9,08,657	20,24,000	15,58,000	17,92,000	Decrease in the revised is attributed to collapse of the jute market in Dacca, Mymensingh and Faridpur and considerable delay in starting recovery work in Midnapore. The collections in 1915-16 are made up thus :—
							Rs.
							Midnapore 3,65,395
							Faridpur 56,658
							Dacca 5,00,000
							Mymensingh 7,00,000
							Rajshahi 3,00,000
							Lump deduction 1,30,053
							Total ... 17,92,000
Recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars	.....	.....	—55	.....	.....	.....	
Total deductions ...	43,79,153	54,00,817	51,86,884	67,26,000	56,10,000	62,29,000	
Net amount divisible between Imperial and Provincial	2,27,93,164	2,25,86,338	2,28,41,653	2,29,38,000	2,28,70,000	2,29,20,000	
Provincial share of above	1,13,96,582	1,12,93,169	1,14,20,826	1,14,69,000	1,14,35,000	1,14,60,000	
Add collections from Government estates	43,30,589	47,70,855	42,77,344	47,00,000	40,50,000	44,37,000	
Recoveries of cost of maintenance of boundary pillars	.....	.....	938	2,000	2,000	.....	
Total Provincial	1,57,27,171	1,60,64,024	1,56,99,108	1,61,71,000	1,54,87,000	1,59,97,000	

IV—Stamps—

Sale of general stamps	58,51,102	63,74,686	67,52,401	71,00,000	55,00,000	55,00,000	Decrease in the revised is due to dislocation of business and trade caused by the war.
Sale of court-fee stamps	1,38,72,790	1,38,84,986	1,45,01,549	1,45,50,000	1,41,00,000	1,42,00,000	Decrease in the revised is due to a smaller number of cases being instituted in the courts.
Sale of plain paper to be used with court-fee stamps	3,01,012	3,10,308	3,23,073	3,25,000	3,10,000	3,10,000	
Duty on impressing documents ...	31,812	57,163	2,30,774	2,40,000	2,10,000	2,10,000	
Fines and penalties	34,765	31,923	31,707	33,000	28,000	30,000	
Miscellaneous	21,095	84,787	71,327	52,000	52,000	50,000	
Total ...	2,01,12,576	2,07,43,853	2,19 10,831	2 23,00,000	2,02,00,000	2,03,00,000	
Provincial share ...	1,00,56,288	1,03,71,927	1,09,55,416	1,11,50,000	1,01,00,000	1,01,50,000	Revised based on the actuals of eleven months.

V—Excise—

License and distillery fees for the sale of liquors and drugs—							
Foreign liquors	3,63,338	3,44,760	3,05,450	3,00,000	3,00,000	3,80,000	
Indian-made liquors excised at tariff rates	2,53,785	2,41,811	3,44,819	3,00,000	3,50,000	3,50,000	
Country spirits—							
License fees—							
Distillery	61,73,266	64,11,686	69,61,029	76,00,000	68,50,000	67,70,000	The present crisis has affected consumption in the chief jute-growing districts.
Outstills							
Still-head duty... ...							
Miscellaneous							
Toddy revenue	4,26,401	4,50,393	4,75,017	4,60,000	4,75,000	5,25,000	
Opium and its preparations	8,11,686	8,96,519	12,52,622	12,00,000	14,50,000	10,60,000	Owing to the rise of the treasury price of opium and the duty on ganja and in consequence of the war, a large decrease in consumption is anticipated.
Other drugs, ganga, bhang, etc. ...	16,18,373	16,32,491	18,02,202	18,00,000	19,25,000	13,65,000	
Pachwai revenue	7,77,794	8,30,129	8,46,669	8,40,000	9,00,000	9,00,000	
Total ...	1,04,24,643	1,08,07,789	1,19,87,808	1,25,00,000	1,22,50,000	1,13,50,000	
Gain on sale-proceeds of excise opium ...	14,61,000	14,79,610	14,95,547	14,85,000	14,30,000	21,10,000	Increase due to raising of the treasury price of opium to Rs. 40 per seer.
Duty on ganja	14,66,420	14,37,379	18,72,650	17,80,000	17,60,000	25,00,000	Increase of duty on ganja from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 per seer.
Fines, confiscations, and miscellaneous ...	36,137	34,267	37,573	35,000	40,000	40,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,33,88,200	1,37,59,045	1,53,88,578	1,58,00,000	1,55,00,000	1,60,00,000	
Provincial share (three-fourths in 1911-12) and whole for 1912-13	1,00,41,150	1,37,59,045	1,53,88,578	1,58,00,000	1,55,00,000	1,60,00,000	Revised based on the actuals of ten months.

VI—Provincial Rates—

HEADS.	ACTUALS.			1914-15.		1915-16.	REMARKS.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Public Works Cess	30,83,495	30,96,008	.....	.....	.....	.....	The collections are being credited to District Funds.
General rates for the management to private estates	91,377	1,06,144	1,31,340	1,18,000	1,10,000	1,10,000	The fall in the price of jute has reduced the collections from Wards' Estates in 1914-15. The estimate for 1915-16 is calculated at the prescribed rates on the gross estimated income of the estates under management.
Total ...	31,74,872	32,02,152	1,31,340	1,18,000	1,10,000	1,10,000	

VIII—Assessed Taxes—

Deductions by Government from salaries and pensions, etc.	4,98,512	4,86,852	5,04,822	4,95,000	5,20,000	5,10,000	
Deductions by Government from interest on Government securities	24,009	21,192	24,052	23,000	24,000	22,000	
Deductions from salaries, etc., paid by local authorities or companies	88,367	88,660	94,440	90,000	90,000	90,000	
Income-tax on securities of local authorities or companies	1,40,809	1,43,568	1,55,151	1,47,000	1,65,000	1,60,000	
Ordinary collections	45,73,669	47,89,658	58,39,275	53,23,000	60,80,000	53,00,000	Increase in the revised is attributed to the favourable trade conditions of 1913-14, which swelled the profits of some of the coal and jute companies and many of the banks. The prevailing adverse condition of the trade will affect the profits in 1914-15, and will reduce the assessments and collections of 1915-16
Deductions from profits of railway companies	403	.....	.....	.....	1,000	.....	
Penalties	14,194	13,448	11,790	14,000	10,000	10,000	
Miscellaneous	7,105	8,274	8,386	8,000	10,000	8,000	
Total ...	53,47,068	55,51,652	66,37,916	61,00,000	69,00,000	61,00,000	
Provincial share ...	26,73,534	27,75,826	33,18,958	30,50,000	34,50,000	30,50,000	Revised based on eleven months' actuals.

IX—Forests—

Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency ..	1,51,372	1,07,835	17,940	4,000	4,000	2,000	
Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers ...	11,84,132	14,41,410	15,34,682	15,50,000	12,50,000	14,00,000	The sales of timber have declined owing to difficulty experienced in 1914-15 in financing the timber trade and to a diminution of the purchasing power of jute cultivators who are large customers of *sal*. The Conservator anticipates a substantial increase in 1915-16, in expectation that arrears in exploitation [illegible]
Confiscated drift and waif wood ...	5,555	1,836	5,320	2,000	6,000	3,000	
Miscellaneous	46,406	49,520	58,169	44,000	50,000	45,000	

X—Registration—

Fees for registering documents ...	16,02 137	16,83,575	18,54,426	18,95,000	16,40,000	17,30,000	The fees for the registration of Joint Stock Companies which were credited here in previous years, are now being credited to XXI—B Scientific and Miscellaneous Depts.—Budget allows for normal increase.
Fees for copies of registered documents ...	56,826	63,164	73,930	73,000	75,000	80,000	
Miscellaneous	74,731	76,422	87,788	82,000	85,000	90,000	
Total ...	17,33,694	18,23 161	20,16,144	20,50,000	18,00,000	19,00,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

XII—Interest—

Class I.—Interest on advances to cultivators—						
On advances to cultivators under the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883 ...	18,169	20,958	15,587	62,000	55,000	50,000	Decrease due to smaller advances against larger repayments.
On advances to cultivators under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XXII of 1884	63,367	36,469	16,107			
On loans to Co-operative Credit Societies	1,832	1,672	3,449	3,000	3,000	2,000	
Class II.—Interest on advances under Special Laws—						
On advances under the Public Demand and Recovery Act, 1895	.....	.....	.....	.....	... ..	.....	
On drainage and embankment advances ...	6,228	14,735	3,500	14,000	9,000	14,000	Based on the estimated mean balance of Loans account.
Class III.—Interest on loans to landholders, etc.	2,15,454	1,97,580	1,65,429	1,74,000	1,59,000	1 60,000	
Class IV.—Interest on loans to municipal and other public corporations (excluding Presidency Corporations)	1,88,285	2,00,145	2,01,426	2,20,000	2,09,000	2,90,000	Increase due to provision for larger advances than repayments.
Interest on Government securities ...	13,202	10,545	10,545	11,000	12,000	12,000	
Total ...	5,06,537	4,82,104	4,16,043	4,84,000	4 47 000	5,28,000	
Miscellaneous—						
Interest on arrears of Public Works Cess	14,959	13,361	11,053	...		...	
Other items	410	5 001	2,640	2,500		1,000	
Interest on zamindari embankment recoveries, etc.	299	247	263	500		300	
Total Miscellaneous ...	15,668	18,609	13,956	3,000	15,000	1.300	Increase in the revised is due to realization of interest on arrears of Public Works Cess.
Rounding ...	...	...	...	...	...	—300	
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,22,205	5,00,713	4,29,999	4,87,000	4,62,000	5,29,000	

XVIA—Law and Justice—Courts of Law—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Sale-proceeds of unclaimed and escheated property	26,152	28,892	27,509	30,000	27,000	30,000	
Court-fees realized in cash	56,187	64,124	63,893	74,000	59,000	62,000	
General fees fines, and forfeitures ...	6,07,679	6,55,040	6,89,369	7,25,000	7,15,000	7,55,000	
Pleadership Examination fees ...	37,990	32,385	29,683	32,000	31,000	34,000	
Miscellaneous fees and fines	5,911	5,855	4,898	6,000	3,000	4,000	
Miscellaneous	26,858	28,605	27,459	28,000	27,000	28,000	
Total ...	7,60,777	8,14,901	8,42,811	8,95,000	8,62,000	9,13,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

XVIB—Jails—

Jails	9,287	1,356	839	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Jail manufactures	8,22,137	7,01,997	6,71,108	7,22,000	7,30,000	7,59,000	The sale-proceeds of pice-packets of quinine were hitherto credited to the head Jails and Cinchona Departments in proportion of 1 : 4, which has been changed to 2 : 3 from 1914-15. The sale-proceeds of quinine treatments which were credited to the head Medical, are also being credited to this head and to the Cinchona Department in the same proportion. This explains the increase from 1914-15.
Total ...	8,31,424	7,03,353	6,71,947	7,23,000	7,31,000	7,60,000	

XVII—Police—

Cash receipts under the Arms Act ...	1,018	937	777	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Police supplied to public departments, private companies, and persons	69,816	1,13,200	14,861	20,000	25,000	18,000	
Presidency police	79,769	89,566	1,08,456	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,33,000	Increase due to larger receipts expected from the Motor Cycle Act.
Recoveries on account of village police ...	308	383	267	300	... ..	300	
Fees, fines, and forfeitures	14,153	16,880	15,332	17,000	17,000	14,600	
Miscellaneous	22,611	18,116	16,989	19,000	24,000	19,000	
Superannuation receipts	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—300	.....	+100	
Total ...	1,87,675	2,39,082	1,56,684	1,77,000	1,87,000	1,86,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first eight months.

Sale-proceeds of vessels and stores ...	831	1,578	943	.....	1,000	1,000	
Registration and other fees { Calcutta ...	86,964	91,486	96,323	94,000	94,000	98,000	
{ Chittagong ...	1,939	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Pilotage receipts, Calcutta	14,63,455	15,22,201	14,55,086	15,00,000	12,74,000	13,20,000	Decrease in the revised is due to dislocation of trade caused by the war. Budget framed in view of the adverse trade conditions which might continue in 1915-16.
Lead-money for volunteers	12,545	11,472	8,736	12,000	6,000	9,000	
Miscellaneous	1,29,822	1,25,454	1,15,516	1,10,000	1,50,000	1,92,000	Revised includes Rs. 36,000 being the anticipated receipts for the loan of the steamer *Guide* to the Government of India for station duty at Port Blair. Budget includes Rs. 72,000 on the same account.
Total ...	16,95,556	17,52,191	16,76,604	17,16,000	15,25,000	16,20,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

XIX—Education—

Fees, Government Colleges—							
General	2,89,131	3,00,593	3,07,447	3,32,000	3,06,000	3,22,000	
Professional	46,074	49,713	61,468	56,000	61,000	63,000	Revised and budget based on the actuals of 1913-14.
Fees, Government Schools—							
General	3,21,797	3,45,875	3,62,836	3,74,000	3,75,000	4,06,000	Budget includes Rs. 24,000 for fees of the Residential school for Indian boys at Hastings House, Calcutta.
Special	13,642	15,009	14,071	31,000	13,000	31,000	Budget includes Rs. 16,000 on account of fees and fines from Madrassas which were hitherto credited to the Mohsin Fund.
Contributions from Native States, private persons, and municipalities	5,126	14,667	13,609	12,000	14,000	16,000	
Income from endowments	3,778	111	.....	100	.....	100	
Miscellaneous	53,701	51,708	51,522	57,000	43,000	47,900	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—100	.....	.....	
Total ...	7,33,249	7,77,676	8,10,953	8,62,000	8,12,000	8,86,000	Revised based on nine months actuals. Budget for 1914-15 was too high.

XX—Medical—

Medical School and College fees ...	73,306	86,743	96,578	96,000	1,00,000	1,06,000	Budget based with reference to the growing receipts.
Hospital receipts (receipts from paying patients)	1,61,887	1,55,537	1,62,630	1,53,000	1,70,000	1,70,000	Based on actuals.
Lunatic Asylum receipts	25,061	26,108	22,919	28,000	21,000	23,000	
Contributions (from municipalities and private persons)	56,389	1,05,181	57,599	56,000	56,000	56,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included a special contribution of Rs. 50,000 from the Indian Research fund for jungle clearing in malarial districts.
Medicines sold by Civil Surgeons ...	26,167	37,293	62,864	50,000	8,000	7,000	The sale-proceeds of quinine treatments sold through the agency of Civil Surgeons, which were credited here, are now adjusted under Jails and Cinchona Departments in the proportion of 2 : 3, and hence the decrease from 1914-15.
Miscellaneous	20,167	15,871	17,717	14,000	22,000	18,000	
Total ...	3,62,977	4,26,733	1,20,307	3,97,000	3,75,000	3,80,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

XXIA—Agriculture.

Heads	Actuals. 1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14	1914-15. Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	1915-16. Budget estimate.	Remarks.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	
Botanical Garden Receipts	2,311	3,871	597	100	50,000	800	
Birch Hill Park at Darjeeling and Lebong Forest			2,130	1,900		1,800	
Other Government gardens			456	200		400	
Miscellaneous			96	100		100	
Receipts on account of experimental cultivation	32,830	42,515	44,474	50,000		46,900	
Receipts from public exhibitions and fairs ...	.....	.....	33	.....	.....	.....	
Veterinary receipts	33,771	33,258	30,970	33,000	28,000	32,000	
Deduct—For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	-300	.....	.....	
Total ...	68,912	79,644	78,756	85,000	78,000	82,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

XXIB—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments—

Scientific—							
Cinchona Plantations	1,26,653	93,509	1,70,950	1,50,000	3,71,000	3,00,000	The ⅓th of the sale-proceeds of pice-packets of quinine and ⅛th of the sale-proceeds of quinine treatments are credited to this head from 1914-15. Increase in the revised occurs in the sale of quinine of which a large stock was accumulated in 1912-13.
Labour and Emigration—							
Emigration fees	25,695	24,630	17,280	23,000	11,000	8,000	
Inland labour transport fees ...	10,454	8,396	8,238	9,000	5,000	4,000	
Miscellaneous—							
Examination fees	—28	25	237	100	1,000	600	
Miscellaneous	5,367	5,727	2,220	4,600	42,000	40,000	The fees from the registration of Joint Stock Companies which were hitherto credited under Registration are now credited here from 1914-15.
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+300	.....	+400	
Total ...	1,68,141	1,38,287	1,98,925	1,87,000	4,30,000	3,53,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

Contributions for pensions and gratuities—							
Contributions of officers lent to foreign service of the first and second kinds	26,779	26,451	20,453	19,000	22,000	21,000	
Contributions of persons employed for the management of private estates under Act X of 1892	1,601	1,460	1,096	1,600	2,000	1,500	} Based on actuals.
Annuity deductions of Covenanted Civilians lent to Native States, etc., for short terms	2,432	4,663	3,282	3,300	3,800	3,230	
Refund of gratuities	60	72	.....	100	.....	100	
Deductions for Pilotage Pension Fund ...	12,286	15,564	14,055	15,000	14,200	14,000	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+200	
Total ...	43,158	48,210	38,886	39,000	42,000	40,030	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

XXIII—Stationery and Printing—

Stationery receipts	2,535	2,799	1,001	2,000	1,500	1,000	} Based on actuals
Sale of Gazettes and other publications ...	85,907	88,111	95,236	89,800	88,000	90,000	
Other Press receipts	41,983	29,193	41,625	28,200	66,500	41,000	Increase in the revised is from the sale of waste paper and unserviceable materials from the Dacca Jail Press on its removal to Giya.
Total ..	1,30,425	1,20,103	1,37,862	1,20,000	1,56,000	1,32,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first eight months.

XXV—Miscellaneous—

Percentage on capital furniture ...	30	.....	.....	... ..	.....	.....	
Recovery on account of famine expenditure	.....	1	...	.....	.....	.....	
Unclaimed deposits	5,22,773	6,38,027	6,01,162	4,80,000	5,55,000	5,50,000	This is an uncertain head. Revised based on the deposits likely to lapse at the close of the year. Budget based on the average of three years ending 1913-14.
Treasure-trove	139	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sale-proceeds of Durbar presents ...	12,435	7,225	10,293	7,000	5,000	7,000	
Sale of old stores and materials ...	1,350	1,727	8,420	3,000	5,000	2,000	
Sale of lands and houses etc. ...	201	2,742	13,767	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Fees for Government audits	19,503	15,392	23,576	27,000	28,000	18,000	Increase in the revised is for fees expected to be realized in 1914-15 on account of audits completed in previous year. Budget excludes the arrears included in the revised.
Rents	14,656	14,900	16,991	14,000	15,000	15,000	
Miscellaneous fees, fines, and forfeitures ...	2,639	7,098	2,961	3,000	7,000	5,000	
Contributions	750	702	... ..	1,000	.....	500	
	5,74,486	6,88,313	6,77,170	5,37,000	6,17,000	6,29,500	

XXV—Miscellaneous—concluded.

Heads	Actuals.			1914-15		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate	Budget estimate	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Miscellaneous—							
Fees and fines of revenue courts ...	21,908	27,194	22,227	24,000	20,000	22,000	
Recoveries of law charges other than those in pauper suits	12,104	40,791	15,062	12,000	18,000	15,000	
Value of mathematical stores returned ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sundry receipts—Circuit-houses ...	368	299	342	400	700	400	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of Public Works Cess under Act IX (B.C.) of 1880	521	704	442	.....	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of the management of Wards' estates ...	34	107	2,970	100	300	100	
Sale-proceeds of trees on tea lands ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sale of elephants	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	
Other items	19,290	19,754	50,547	16,500	33,000	22,500	
Steamer receipts, Chittagong ...	6,060	4,177	.....	2,000	....	.....	
Total Miscellaneous ...	60,885	84,026	91,590	55,000	72,000	60,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+500	
Grand Total ...	6,35,371	7,72,339	7,68,760	5,92,000	6,89,000	6,90,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

XXIX—Irrigation—Major Works—(Direct Receipts)—

Midnapore Canal	2,15,470	2,20,782	2,10,152	2,13,500	2,09,000	2,03,000	Decrease both in the revised and the Budget due to smaller exports of rice
Hijili Tidal Canal	62,657	53,136	36,427	53,500	31,000	37,000	Decrease in the revised is due to the restricted traffic on account of the silted-up condition of the canal.
Total ...	2,78,127	2,73,918	2,46,579	2,67,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals with allowance for decrease in the last four months.

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT						
Recoveries on account of lands benefited by embankments	50,031	49,850	48,842	50,000	50,000	50,000
Provincial share ...	25,015	24,925	24,421	25,000	25,000	25,000
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT						
(Irrigation and Navigation Works)						
Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept—						
Orissa Coast Canal	8,397	16,346	11,484	17,000	14,000	14,000
Calcutta and Eastern Canals ...	4,35,776	4,21,908	3,76,032	3,75,000	3,73,000	3,63,000
Midnapur Bhil scheme	1,23,706	1,03,225	89,332	92,000	84,000	80,000
Total ...	5,67,879	5,41,479	4,76,848	4,84,000	4,71,000	4,57,000
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—						
Nadia rivers	33,507	28,986	24,832	25,000	18,000	18,000
Gaighatta and Burdwan *khals* ...	3,675	3,675	4,244	4,000	4,000	4,000
Total ...	37,182	32,661	29,076	29,000	22,000	22,000
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—						
Eden Canal	31,978	36,531	32,803	37,000	24,000	34,000
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works	6,37,039	6,10,671	5,38,727	5,51,000	4,67,000	4,93,000

Recoveries on account of lands benefited by embankments ... ... — Represent receipts in Midnapore under the Contract system for the repairs of zamindari embankment. The estimate is based on actual demands.

Provincial share ... — Represent receipts in Midnapore under the Contract system for the repairs of zamindari embankment. The estimate is based on actual demands.

Orissa Coast Canal ... ... — Revised reduced on account of anticipated remission under water-rates.

Calcutta and Eastern Canals ... — Decrease in the revised is due to stoppage of jute traffic.

Midnapur Bhil scheme ... ... — Decrease in the revised is due to smaller receipts from toolage on steamers

XXV—Miscellaneous—concluded.

Heads	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate	Budget estimate	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Miscellaneous—							
Fees and fines of revenue courts ...	21,908	27,194	22,227	24,000	20,000	22,000	
Recoveries of law charges other than those in pauper suits	12,104	40,791	15,062	12,000	18,000	15,000	
Value of mathematical stores returned ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sundry receipts—Circuit-house ...	368	299	342	400	700	400	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of Public Works Cess under Act IX (B.C.) of 1880	521	704	442	.....	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous receipts on account of the management of Wards' estates ...	34	107	2,970	100	300	100	
Sale-proceeds of trees on tea lands ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sale of elephants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Other items	19,290	10,754	50,547	16,500	33,000	22,500	
Steamer receipts, Chittagong ...	6,660	4,177	.....	2,000	.....	.....	
Total Miscellaneous ...	60,885	84,026	91,590	55,000	72,000	60,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+500	
Grand Total ...	6,35,371	7,72,339	7,68,760	5,92,000	6,89,000	6,90,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

XXIX—Irrigation—Major Works—(Direct Receipts)—

Midnapore Canal	2,15,470	2,20,782	2,10,152	2,13,500	2,09,000	2,03,000	Decrease both in the revised and the Budget due to smaller exports of rice
Hijili Tidal Canal	62,657	53,136	36,427	53,500	31,000	37,000	Decrease in the revised is due to the restricted traffic on account of the silted-up condition of the canal.
Total ...	2,78,127	2,73,918	2,46,579	2,67,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals with allowance for

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT						
Recoveries on account of lands benefited by embankments	50,031	49,850	48,842	50,000	50,000	50,000	Represent receipts in Midnapore under the Contract system for the repairs of zamindari embankment. The estimate is based on actual demands.
Provincial share ...	25,015	24,925	24,421	25,000	25,000	25,000	
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT						
(Irrigation and Navigation Works)						
Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept—						
Orissa Coast Canal	8,397	16,346	11,484	17,000	14,000	14,000	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals ...	4,35,776	4,21,908	3,76,032	3,75,000	3,53,000	3,03,000	Decrease in the revised is due to stoppage of jute traffic.
Madaripur Bhil scheme	1,23,706	1,03,225	89,332	92,000	54,000	60,000	Decrease in the revised is due to smaller receipts from tolls on steamers
Total ...	5,67,879	5,41,479	4,76,848	4,84,000	4,21,000	4,37,000	
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—						
Nadia rivers	33,507	28,986	24,832	25,100	18,000	18,000	
Gaighatta and Buxi Khals ...	3,675	3,675	4,244	4,900	4,000	4,000	
Total ...	37,182	32,661	29,076	30,000	22,000	22,000	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—						
Eden Canal	31,978	36,531	32,803	37,000	24,000	34,000	Revised reduced on account of anticipated remission under water-rates.
Total Irrigation and Navigation Works	6,37,039	6,10,671	5,38,727	5,51,000	4,67,000	4,93,000	

XXX—Minor Works and Navigation—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(Agricultural Works.)	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs	
Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept—							
** Magra Hât drainage project ...	1,403	2,480	4,277	34,000	34,000	54,000	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue accounts are kept—							
Government embankments ...	29,930	27,059	22,036	25,000	23,000	23,000	
Takavi embankments under contract ...							
Total Agricultural Works ...	31,333	29,539	26,313	59,000	57,000	77,000	
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	6,68,372	6,40,210	5,65,040	6,10,000	5,24,800	5,70,000	
Provincial share ...	3,34,186	3,20,105	2,82,520	3,05,000	2,62,000	2,85,000	

XXXI—Civil Works—

In charge of the Civil Department.							
Tolls on ferries	1,43,603	1,33,829	1,54,595	1,33,000	1,52,000	1,44,000	Increase in the revised is due to resettlement of Government ferries at higher rent.
Cemetery receipts	1,122	1,191	1,495	1,400	2,000	1,800	
Receipts from staging bungalows and encamping grounds	7,159	3,905	5,714	5,000	6,000	6,400	
Miscellaneous	3,379	3,598	4,230	4,500	4,000	4,500	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+100	.....	+300	
Total in charge of the Civil Department	1,55,263	1,42,523	1,66,034	1,44,000	1,64,000	1,57,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.
In charge of the Public Works Department.							
Total gross receipts ...	4,69,320	3,85,020	4,24,050				

From Provincial to Imperial.						
Fixed assignment under the Provincial Settlement		7,28,000	7,28,000	7,28,000	7,28,000	7,28,000	
For repairs to Nizamat Palace, Murshidabad		.....	40,000	... ..	.....	.....	
For Law charges on account of Bihar and Orissa		.....	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
For Collegiate and University expenditure in Bihar and Orissa		.....	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	
For premises No. 9, Hare Street ...		.....	.....	.....	9,000	9,000	The house No. 9, Hare Street, has been transferred to the Local Government. The rent of the house is credited to Provincial Civil Works, while the net receipts (rents—charges for repairs) are given over to the Imperial Government
For making certain alterations to the buildings of the Calcutta Museum for delivery of popular lectures		.....	2,454	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...		7,28,000	8,06,454	7,64,000	7,73,000	7,73,000	
From Imperial to Provincial.							
Assignment in connection with further scientific researches by Dr. J. C. Bose ...		.....	.....	9,000	9,000	9,000	Sanctioned for three years from 1914-15
For Famine Relief scheme		60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...		1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	Sanctioned for 60 years
Recurring grant for popular education ...		9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	9,25,000	
Recurring grant for aided English Secondary Schools		1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Further recurring grant for education ...		.....	.....	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Recurring grant for education of domiciled community		40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Contribution for a grant to the C. M. S. College, Calcutta		.....	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	
For Improvement of Female education ...		.....	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
Contribution for maintenance of Traffic Registration Office, Bhairab Bazar ...		... ..	.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Contribution for Royal Bonus		1,227	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of Hostels outside Calcutta and Dacca ...		4,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for the development of University works, Calcutta		4,00,000	.. ...	.....	.....	.....	
Ditto (recurring)		65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	
Assignment for Belgachia Veterinary College		30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
Ditto recovery of the cost of transmission of records by revised procedure introduced by the Court fees Act ...		6,440	6,440	6,000	6,000	6,000	
Grant for the amalgamation of the clerical establishment of the Art section of the Indian Museum with the School of Art ...		1,190	1,190	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Provincialization of expenditure on account of salaries of officers of the Civil Veterinary Department		.....	.....	.....	29,000	29,000	
Assignment for purchase of copies of Indian Household Reference Chart and the Indian Household Emergency Chart		.....	.....	.....	2,000	.....	

Transfers between Imperial and Provincial—concluded.

HEADS	ACTUALS.			1914-15.		1915-16.	REMARKS.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
From Imperial to Provincial—concluded.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
For remission of recoveries from local bodies		.....	.....	26,000	26,000	26,000	
Non-recurring grant for the construction of hostel buildings in Calcutta		10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Non-recurring grant for Dacca University ...		10,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto ditto ...		45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa towards pay of electrical staff utilized by it ...		7,572	7,572	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Pensions of title-holders		2,700	2,700	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland's deputation for serological enquiry and that of Captain S. Ingleton Smith		17,256	46,352	25,000	35,000	35,000	
Grant of one-half of the salaries of Health Officers to be employed in municipalities		39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	
Grant for Indian Deputy Sanitary Commissioners		.....	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	
Cost of supply of forms and printing work done for Bihar and Orissa Government ...		2,32,000	2,09,000	2,32,000	2,15,000	.....	The Bihar Government will print their own forms, etc., in Gaya Jail Press from 1915-16.
Cost of supplying forms to Assam Administration		1,29,500	89,000	1,29,000	94,000	1,05,000	
Contribution from Bihar and Orissa in connection with fishery experiments ...		.....	.....	11,000	.....	9,000	
Non-recurring assignment for sanitation ...		20,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring ditto		.....	5,00,000	5,00,000	5,00,000	5,00,000	
Assignment for the Chittagong port ...		.....	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	Sanctioned by the Government of India for five years on the understanding that the Local Government would pay a similar grant to the Chittagong Port from the Provincial Revenues.
For adjustment of recovery claims or freights on stores from England in the office of the Agent for Government Consignments		.....	.....	.....	6,000	11,000	
Non-recurring assignment for discretionary grants		12,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for Agriculture and allied objects ...		.....	1,50,000	.....	.....	.....	
Grant for Medical relief		.....	1,00,000	.....	.....	.....	
Recurring assignment in connection with the remission of appropriations from cesses ...		.....	24,93,000	24,93,000	24,93,000	24,93,000	
Non-recurring assignment for education ...		75,00,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Further recurring grant for education ...		.....	13,20,000	13,20,000	13,20,000	13,20,000	
Further grant for Dacca University ...		.....	.....	.....	1,00,000	1,00,000	Sanctioned by the Government of India for five years from 1914-15.
Grant to the Calcutta University for hostels		.....	.....	.....	10,00,000	.....	
Total Transfers from Imperial to Provincial		1,54,01,885	65,59,254	65,48,000	76,32,000	64,40,000	

APPENDIX B.

Bengal Provincial Expenditure, in detail of minor heads.

[Figures in columns 6 and 7 are those which have been passed by the Government of India]

[The remarks in column 8, except where otherwise specially explained, refer to difference between columns 5 and 7.]

1.—Refunds and Drawbacks—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	
Land Revenue	39,012	21,090	20,115	25,000	17,000	24,000	The actuals of 1911-12 included a special payment of Rs 6,500 for an erroneous credit given in 1910-11 for cost of maps.
Stamps	89,636	94,552	79,835	87,000	90,000	85,000	The actuals of 1912-13 included a special payment of Rs. 8,000.
Excise	4,510	13,504	16,843	10,000	33,000	16,000	Revised includes a special refund of license fees of Rs 12,000 in Darjeeling.
Assessed Taxes	8,194	8,367	8,654	8,000	17,000	8,000	Revised includes a special payment of Rs 8,000 to a Russian Trading Company
Forest	5,704	1,274	4,380	1,000	3,000	4,000	
Provincial Rates	1,692	747	2,840	.....	1,000	.....	
Registration	6,376	4,501	2,989	4,000	3,000	4,000	
Total ...	1,55,124	1,44,035	1,35,656	1,35,000	1,64,000	1,41,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals. The estimate is based on the average of last 3 years' actuals excluding special payments.

2.—Assignments and Compensations—

Land Revenue Compensation	7,500	.....	133	6	200	6	
Pension in lieu of resumed lands ...	854	927	706	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Malikana	29,293	49,978	26,320	42,000	30,800	41,500	This is a very fluctuating head. The actuals of 1912-13 included arrear payments.
Excise Compensation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	—6	.....	—506	
Total ...	37,647	50,905	27,159	43,000	32,000	42,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals. Budget provides for actual claims.

3.—Land Revenue—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Charges of District Administration—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	
General Establishment	24,65,220	23,96,938	24,86,175	25,24,000	26,70,000	26,75,000	Increase in revised is for salaries of officers recalled from leave
Subdivisional Establishment	1 62,078	1,59,479	1,67,515	1,45,000	1,69,000	1,48,000	
Partition Establishment	—11,197	—23,624	—19,274	—13,000	—20,000	—15,000	
Record-room (or copy-making) Establishment	23,529	17,790	17,943	19,000	20,000	20,000	
Survey of waste-lands	1,587	8,136	1,465	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Management of private estates under Act X of 1892	26,864	22,729	23,832	24,000	24,000	23,000	
Collector's Road Cess Establishment ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	—5,000	—5,000	
Total ...	26,68,081	25,81,448	26,77,656	27,01,000	28,60,000	28,48,000	
Charges on account of Land Revenue collections	11,670	13,280	17,348	10,000	17,000	24,000	The charges are gradually rising.
Charges on account of Fishery collections ...	2,667	250	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Management of Government Estates—							
Collection of revenue	3,32,110	2,77,208	2,88,093	3,19,000	3,14,000	3,35,000	
Outlay on improvements	2,08,709	1,62,571	1,50,822	2,49,000	1,44,000	1,93,000	Decrease in revised is for smaller expenditure on improvements.
Total ...	5,40,819	4,39,779	4,38,915	5,68,000	4,58,000	5,28,000	The estimate is generally based on the estimate of collections from Government estates with special additions according to requirements.
Survey and Settlement—							
Controlling Office (survey)	3,591	—224	88	.....	.....	.....	
Other survey operations—							
Bengal Drawing Office	27,712	8,696	52,378	52,164	36,000	59,934	
Other operations	24,827	45,776	1,32,936	96,998	81,000	77,411	
Minor settlement operations	59,287	49,545	74,471	.....	.....	.....	
Other ditto	51,960	32,084	—16,008	63,771	64,000	63,437	
Regrant of savings in the allotment for stationery	.....	.....	.....	67	.....	1,393	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—2,175	
Total							

Superintendence	80,618	41,985	37,790	11,000	34,000	37,000	Increase in Budget is due to the provision of Rs. 4,032 for salary of a Special Officer for revising the Survey and Settlement Manual and for a provision of Rs. 1,200 for local allowance of the Personal Assistant of the Director. Budget also provides for smaller recoveries from Survey and Settlement operations.
District charges	38,025	23,509	25,201	30,000	25,000	29,000	
Total ...	1,18,643	65,494	62,991	41,000	59,000	66,000	
GRAND TOTAL ...	35,09,257	32,36,128	34,40,775	35,33,000	35,75,000	36,66,000	

6.—*Stamps*—

Superintendence—						
District Establishment	26,579	28,133	26,802	30,000	29,000	29,000	
Charges for the sale of general stamps—						
Discount on sale of bills-of-exchange or hundies	5,773	6,323	7,229	9,000		7,000	
Discount on sale of other general stamps	1,80,510	2,03,659	2,26,742	2,26,000		2,25,000	
Total ...	1,86,283	2,09,982	2,33,971	2,35,000	1,90,000	2,32,000	Revised reduced in view of the smaller payment of discount for smaller sales on account of reduction on the receipt side. Budget follows the anticipated increase of sales and payment of larger discount.
Charges on sale of court-fee stamps—							
Discount on sale of adhesive stamps ...	1,03,214	1,03,350	1,05,997	1,08,000		1,04,000	
Discount on sale of stamps for copies	9,124	6,117	7,480	8,500		8,500	
Establishment for sale of stamps ...	1,362	1,033	1,023	1,494		1,494	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	6		+6	
Total ...	1,13,700	1,10,500	1,14,500	1,18,000	1,12,000	1,14,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals
Discount on plain paper	18,523	18,309	20,323	19,000	20,000	20,000	
Stamp paper supplied from Central Stores	2,99,928	3,40,446	3,27,536	3,50,000	2,00,000	2,10,000	Under the terms of the new agreement with the contractor for the supply of stamp paper, the prices of some items have been reduced by about 50 per cent. and the cost of demy paper has also been reduced. Revised based on the supplies made during the first 6 months of 1914-15.
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,45,013	7,07,370	7,23,132	7,52,000	5,51,000	6,05,000	
Provincial share ...	3,22,507	3,53,685	3,61,566	3,76,000	2,76,000	3,03,000	

7.—*Excise*—

Superintendence	1,02,928	80,416	1,01,530	1,03,000	1,04,000	1,03,000	
Presidency Establishment—						
Calcutta Collectorate (office) ...	41,866	48,494	46,626	45,888	46,500	46,320	
Inspection and Prevention ...	25,509	22,409	22,725	21,204	24,600	21,804	
Allowances and Contingencies ...	26,780	28,322	25,369	28,391	25,900	27,241	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—483	.....	—365	
Total ...	94,155	99,225	94,720	95,000	97,000	95,000	

7.—*Excise*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals			1914-15		1915-16.	Remarks
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	
District Executive Establishment—							
Sadar Establishment	73,687	73,897	76,255	2,21,601	1,13,000	2,22,051	Decrease in revised is for partial utilization of the lump provision for reorganization of the department. Budget includes Rs. 1,50,000 for reorganization.
Inspection and Prevention ...	1,37,329	1,36,035	1,32,907	1,36,341	1,36,000	1,37,649	
Allowances, etc.	90,690	87,553	98,383	93,538	1,01,000	93,333	
Bonus	5,353	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—480	.....	—33	
Total ...	3,07,059	2,97,538	3,07,545	4,51,000	3,50,000	4,53,000	
Distilleries—							
Presidency Establishment	13,869	13,690	11,335	13,000	12,500	13,000	
District Establishment	1,12,735	1,06,788	1,10,613	2,15,000	1,77,500	1,38,000	Decrease in revised is for savings in the grant for the construction of steam launches.
Bonus	978	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Grand Total ..	6,31,724	5,97,657	6,25,743	8,77,000	7,41,000	8,02,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	4,73,793	5,97,657	6,25,743	8,77,000	7,41,000	8,02,000	

8.—*Provincial Rates*—

Collection of rates and cesses	81,984	62,050	62,898	63,000	.....	.....	The expenditure is being debited to the head "3—Land Revenue—Charges for district Administration" in the first instance and ultimately recovered from the District Boards, the recoveries including pension contributions taken in reduction of expenditure under that head.
Valuation and revaluation	92,302	84,320	91,104	1,26,000	.....	.....	
Bonus	.....	245	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	1,74,286	1,46,615	1,54,002	1,89,000	.....	.....	
Deduct—							
Proportion debitable to Local for cost of road-cess collection	1,18,019	1,07,406	1,54,002	1,89,000	.....	.....	
Proportion debitable to Local for revaluation							
One-third share of recoveries on account of collection of arrear cesses ...	566						
Contribution for pension of the Cess collecting Establishment ...	5,514						
	1,24,099	1,07,406	1,54,002	1,89,000			

Calcutta Establishment	91,286	91,378	91,734	87,000	91,500	88,000	Increase in revised is due to higher grade pay of the Deputy Collector, Calcutta, and to the payment of leave allowances of Assessors.
District ditto	64,465	61,559	62,843	64,000	62,500	64,000	
Bonus	1,482	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	1,56,233	1,52,937	1,54,577	1,51,000	1,54,000	1,52,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals. Budget provides for sanctioned scale of establishment.
Provincial share ...	78,117	76,469	77,288	75,000	77,000	76,000	

11.—*Forests*—

A.—Conservancy and Works.						
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency	63,876	36,767	195	1,200	200	700	
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers and purchasers	1,02,604	1,12,100	1,15,613	1,32,650	1,17,000	1,31,650	Decrease in revised is due to the lapse of the provision for new boilers of the launches *Hawk* and *Helen Grey*. Budget provides for the renewal of the boilers.
III.—Confiscated drift and waif wood ...	2,457	1,370	667	1,200	1,000	1,600	
V.—Rent of leased forests and payment to shareholders in forests managed by Government	.....	1,096	360	1,500	800	1,000	
VI.—Live stock, stores, tools and plant ...	42,046	18,192	27,465	32,500	29,000	14,200	No provision has been made for the purchase of elephants.
VII.—Communications and Buildings ...	78,835	1,14,704	1,03,631	1,31,900	1,24,000	95,650	Budget excludes special expenditure.
VIII.—Demarcation, improvement and extension of forests	35,445	44,545	49,699	71,950	63,000	60,000	
IX.—Miscellaneous	4,421	3,309	3,884	4,450	5,000	5,000	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	—350	.....	+200	
Total A.—Conservancy and Works ...	3,29,184	3,32,083	3,01,514	3,77,000	3,40,000	3,10,000	
B.—Establishment.							
I.—Salaries	2,61,276	2,49,895	2,53,997	2,64,000	2,56,000	2,70,000	Increase in Budget is due to anticipated return to duty of senior officers and to increments under the time-scale of pay.
II.—Allowances	69,962	64,878	70,132	71,000	73,000	70,500	
III.—Contingencies	13,611	13,938	14,454	15,144	15,000	14,883	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	—144	.....	+617	
Total B.—Establishment	3,44,849	3,28,711	3,38,643	3,50,000	3,44,000	3,56,000	
Total A and B ...	6,74,033	6,60,794	6,40,157	7,27,000	6,84,000	6,66,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals.

12.—Registration—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15		1915-16.	Remarks
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	
Superintendence	81,370	70,135	79,069	75,000	75,000	73,000	
District Charges—							
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies ...	.....	.....	.....	21,900	.....	.....	The charges under this head are now adjusted under "26 B—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments."
Calcutta	29,367	30,756	32,881	28,000	29,000	26,000	
District Sub-Registrars	9,53,282	9,49,109	10,13,825	10,73,100	10,46,000	10,23,000	Decrease in revised is due to non-utilization of lump provision for reorganization of establishment of District Officers. Budget also does not provide for this.
Sub-Registrars							
Ex-officio Sub-Registrars	3,387	903	783	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Total District Charges ...	9,86,036	9,80,768	10,47,489	11,24,000	10,76,000	10,50,000	
Grand Total ...	10,67,406	10,50,903	11,26,558	11,99,000	11,51,000	11,23,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first eight months.

13.—Interest on Ordinary Debt—

Interest on Provincial Advance and Loan Account	5,10,365	4,42,546	4,39,897	4,34,000	4,40,000	[illegible]	

Salary of the Governor	1,40,791	1,29,096	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,20,000	
Staff and household of the Governor ...	1,55,692	4,22,279	3,06,916	3,28,000	3,86,000	3,60,000	Revised includes cost of offices of the Private and the Military Secretaries to Governor and to the debit here of the tour and hill journey charges formerly shown under tour charges.
Tour and establishment grant	85,338	1,48,628	1,25,885	1,00,000	73,000	73,000	The new contract grant sanctioned by the Secretary of State
Delhi Coronation Durbar	11,35,299	22,146	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Tour expenses	11,128	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Legislative Department	1,10,472	1,03,961	1,46,576	1,28,000	1,32,000	1,33,000	
Civil Secretariat	9,52,827	7,61,442	7,94,853	8,06,000	8,42,000	8,22,000	Revised includes salaries of officers on special duties. Budget includes higher salary of the Chief Secretary and charges for increased establishment in the Education and Commerce branches owing to increase of work.
Executive Council	1,85,600	2,15,680	2,25,735	2,15,000	2,22,000	2,19,000	
Board of Revenue	3,88,450	2,47,992	2,04,400	1,44,000	1,29,000	1,36,000	Budget includes Rs. 2,500 for revision of establishment and arrear pay of Miss Sorabjee which will not be drawn in 1914-15
Commissioners	4,41,381	3,93,518	4,08,974	4,04,000	3,98,000	4,04,000	
Civil offices of Account and Audit ...	1,08,925	1,01,970	96,420	1,08,000	1,06,000	1,07,000	
Inspector-General of Stamps, Excise and Registration	19,119	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	37,35,022	25,46,712	24,29,759	23,53,000	24,08,000	23,74,000	Revised based on eight months' actuals.

19A—Courts of Law—

Heads.	Actuals			1914-15.		1915-16	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
High Court—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Judges	7,67,667	9,19,575	9,28,928	9,90,000	9,33,000	9,40,000	Decrease in revised is due to non-employment of the full number of Judges. The additional fifth Judge has not been provided for in 1915-16.
Original Side	3,20,130	3,19,711	3,28,899	3,38,000	3,11,000	3,31,000	Decrease in revised is owing to the appointment of Registrar of Insolvency being vacant.
Appellate Side	3,24,135	3,94,438	4,07,344	4,35,000	4,19,000	4,29,000	Decrease in revised is due to the Inspector of Judicial offices being on leave out of India.
Copyists' Establishment	51,850	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Reporters	24,876	24,878	24,883	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Bonus	4,595	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	14,93,253	16,58,610	16,90,054	17,88,000	16,88,000	17,25,000	
Law Officers—							
English Law Officers	1,31,378	1,29,837	1,31,739	1,33,000	1,30,000	1,33,000	
Legal Remembrancer and High Court Pleaders	8,91,946	5,89,666	3,99,690	3,82,000	3,31,000	3,82,000	Decrease in the revised is for smaller payment of fees to Pleaders in Calcutta.
Mufassal Establishment	3,96,536	2,60,137	4,61,414	2,91,000	5,64,000	3,26,000	Increase in the revised is due to large payment of Pleader's fees in connection with several political cases.
Bonus	273	—84	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	14,20,133	9,79,556	9,92,843	8,06,000	10,25,000	8,41,000	
Coroner's Court	7,795	7,307	7,913	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Presidency Magistrates—							
Calcutta Police Court	1,24,218	1,19,731	1,35,561	1,33,000	1,37,500	1,44,000	Increase is due to the separation of the Police Courts into three places and consequent increase under "Rates and Taxes and Contingencies."
Municipal Magistrate's Court ...	10,517	7,974	4,396	8,000	8,500	8,000	
Court for juvenile offenders and house of detention	.....	.....	.....	18,000	9,000	10,000	

Civil and Sessions Courts—							
District and Sessions Judges ...	...	10,86,951	10,74,868	11,00,570	11,11,000	11,18,000	11,01,000	
Subordinate Judges ...	...	4,52,513	4,41,166	4,77,176	5,17,086	5,42,000	5,17,250	Increase in the revised is for arrear payments on account of revision of the Subordinate Judicial Service sanctioned towards the close of last year
Mufassal Small Cause Courts	...	24,683	17,756	18,364	16,728	18,400	17,328	
Munsifs	...	15,96,143	15,48,738	16,12,638	15,90,060	16,33,000	15,80,250	Ditto ditto.
Allowances	...	55,917	42,461	54,892	35,440	56,100	37,000	Increase in the revised is for payment of grain allowance for which provision was made under "32—Miscellaneous."
Supplies and Services ...	...	4,60,608	4,55,719	4,85,216	5,06,424	4,76,500	4,90,705	
Contingencies	...	1,49,877	1,64,614	1,75,382	1,62,070	1,60,000	1,54,534	
Process-serving Establishment	...	7,63,373	7,30,720	7,81,543	7,74,864	7,70,000	7,51,044	
Bonus	...	57,537	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Rounding ...	...	.....	.....	.....	+328	.....	—111	
Total	...	46,47,602	44,76,042	47,05,781	47,14,000	47,74,000	46,49,000	
Presidency Court of Small Causes	...	1,65,836	1,61,324	1,91,373	1,96,000	1,92,000	1,96,000	
Criminal Courts—							
General Establishment ...	...	20,33,495	19,82,411	20,48,302	20,66,000	21,94,000	22,08,000	Increase in the revised is for the appointment of Sub-Deputy Collectors as Circle Officers and recall of officers from leave
Subdivisional Establishment ...	...	1,62,079	1,59,479	1,67,515	1,45,000	1,62,000	1,48,000	
Revision of chowkidari panchayats	...	2,956	2,356	6,284	52,000	4,000	71,900	Provision has been made for the pay of Sub-Deputy Collectors as Circle Officers, but it is adjusted under "General Establishment"
Police Case Hospitals ...	...	.....	.....	.....	5,000	3,000	5,000	
Rewards	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,000	Includes Rs. 6,360 for Arms Act cases, and Rs. 2,000 for the arrest of armed and unarmed dacoits.
For rounding ...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+100	
Total	...	21,98,530	21,44,246	22,22,101	22,68,000	23,70,000	24,42,000	
Pleadership Examination charges	...	17,231	16,979	16,952	20,000	17,000	21,000	
Refunds	...	58,958	67,623	70,573	64,000	75,000	80,000	
Lump deduction	...	.....	.....	.....	—70,000	.....	.....	
Total	...	1,01,44,720	96,39,400	1,00,37,547	99,53,000	1,03,04,000	1,01,24,000	

19B—Jails—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Superintendence	86,422	65,797	59,969	59,000	62,000	63,000	Increase is due to the appointment of a travelling auditor and his peon sanctioned in March 1914.
Establishments—							
Superintendents and Jailors	2,05,954	2,03,542	2,02,249	2,07,000	2,08,000	1,79,000	Decrease in budget is due to the transfer of officers to Military duty.
Medical	31,406	29,910	33,847	33,000	34,000	33,000	
Clerical, Educational and Mechanical ...	12,206	10,770	12,658	12,000	13,000	14,000	
Warder	2,13,979	2,03,397	2,17,091	2,50,000	2,20,000	2,50,000	Decrease in revised is due to non-utilization of the provision for revision of Warders' establishment as the sanction has not yet come.
Menial and others	2,671	3,669	2,773	1,000	3,000	1,000	
Dietary charges	3,96,443	4,77,981	6,62,695	5,00,000	6,78,000	6,25,000	Increase in the revised is with reference to actuals.
Hospital charges	66,767	71,676	79,015	62,000	67,000	65,000	Increase is due to provision for larger grant for sick diet and inclusion of provision for pay to veterinary assistants.
Clothing and bedding of prisoners ...	63,138	54,479	49,995	66,000	60,000	51,000	Reduced with reference to actuals.
Sanitation charges	24,713	22,879	23,694	24,000	23,000	26,000	Estimates based on actual requirements.
Charges for moving prisoners	29,492	35,943	38,334	42,000	38,000	46,000	
Miscellaneous services and supplies ...	1,12,921	1,01,286	1,23,899	1,18,000	1,16,000	1,14,000	The actuals of 1913-14 included larger expenditure under "Petty Construction and Repairs."
Allowances	16,834	12,680	19,047	11,000	21,000	11,000	Budget do not provide for the grant of grain allowances which has been included under "32—Miscellaneous."
Contingent charges	64,648	82,951	87,408	57,000	52,000	56,000	
Extraordinary charges for live-stock, tools and plant	20,902	18,122	23,288	22,000	21,000	21,000	
Charges for police custody	20,573	18,235	17,538	20,000	21,000	24,000	Budget represents passage money of ex-convicts and conveyance allowance of under-trial prisoners and supply of blankets to prisoners detained in Police lock-up.
Bonus	8,888	—123	5	.....	.....	.....	
Charges for the distribution of quinine by the Juvenile Jail	.....	4,207	3,193	5,000	7,000	5,000	
Total Jails ...	13,77,957	14,17,401	16,56,698	14,89,000	16,44,000	15,84,000	
Jail manufactures	6,68,208	5,44,013	6,06,184	5,86,000	7,31,000	6,09,000	Increase in the revised is for larger expenditure on the purchase of raw materials.
Refunds	6,167	418	.....	500	3,000	2,000	
For rounding	.....	.....	.....	+500	.....	.....	
Total ...	20,51,332	19,61,832	22,62,882	20,76,000	23,78,000	21,95,000	

Presidency Police—							
Police Commissioner (Superintendence) ...	1,47,741	1,38,337	1,62,120	1,52,000	1,54,000	1,56,000	
Calcutta Police	11,71,977	12,15,083	13,36,930	13,55,206	14,50,000	14,60,960	Increase is due to the raising of the pay of head constables and constables.
Hospital charges	23,171	32,258	38,656	38,856	40,000	39,000	
Special Police	38,739	35,522	37,866	39,000	30,000	33,102	Decrease in the revised is for smaller expenditure under Police supplied to private individuals.
Cattle-pounds	2,322	2,887	3,466	2,938	3,700	3,638	
River Police	16,597	20,674	13,790	28,000	28,000	30,000	
Police dead-house	1,673	2,093	2,262	2,700	2,300	2,700	
Bonus	23,680	2,256	—5	.....	.....	.....	
Lump provision	.....	.....	.....	1,04,455	.....	20,000	Budget includes cost of increased staff for registration of motor vehicles and for increased force for Bara Bazar thana. The charges for 1914-15 are included under "Calcutta Police."
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—155	.....	—400	
Total ...	14,35,900	14,49,110	15,95,085	17,23,000	17,08,000	17,45,000	
Superintendence	3,01,982	2,22,171	3,15,607	2,62,000	2,85,000	2,34,000	Decrease in the budget is due to no provision having been made for the additional Deputy Inspector-General of Police, 4th Range. Increase in the revised is under "Contingencies and Supplies and Services."
District Police Force—							
Salaries	5,39,798	5,58,526	5,93,728	5,50,000	6,00,000	6,28,000	Increase is due to additional number of officers.
Police Force	29,43,647	30,60,900	32,70,774	34,00,000	34,86,000	32,00,000	Increase is due to the increase of pay of head-constables and constables.
Training Schools	1,01,839	1,23,111	1,31,658	1,62,000	1,34,000	1,45,000	
Establishment	1,92,899	1,99,662	2,14,860	2,02,000	2,08,500	2,07,000	
Hospital charges	41,087	46,293	50,849	42,000	54,500	54,000	Increase is for larger grant for diet and medical stores.
Allowances	5,63,671	5,30,455	6,84,616	5,40,000	7,70,000	7,00,000	Increase in the revised is for adjustment of grain compensation allowance by transfer from "32—Miscellaneous," and for increased charges under "Travelling Allowances."
Supplies and Services	6,15,154	6,42,299	8,14,465	7,13,000	8,62,000	6,56,000	Decrease in the budget is for smaller grant under "Petty Contract and Repairs." Increase in the revised is under "Clothing and Petty Construction."
Contingencies	2,35,101	2,41,040	3,49,411	2,62,000	3,63,000	2,81,000	Increase is for larger grant for rents.
Other Police	3,17,347	2,94,402	3,54,718	7,50,000	2,98,000	2,91,000	Decrease in the revised is due to non-utilization of the full grant for the reorganization of the River Police. Budget does not provide for non-recurring grant for steam-launches, etc., which is shown under "Lump provision."

20.—Police—continued.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs	
District Police Force—*concluded.*							
Bonus	93,192	—438	—93	.....	.....	.....	
Lump provision for additional force and Police reforms	.....	.....	.. ...	14,46,000	4,45,000	5,25,000	Budget includes Rs. 49,000 for revision of boat establishment, Rs. 20,000 for the Second Personal Assistant of the Inspector-General of Police, and 4 lakhs for non-recurring expenditure on construction of launches and buildings in connection with the reorganization of the subordinate police and river police in the Eastern Bengal districts.
Total ...	56,43,735	56,96,250	64,64,986	80,74,000	72,21,000	73,87,000	
Village Police	24,386	19,874	34,020	30,000	5,000	8,000	Decrease due to transfer of charges for Chowkidari Deputy Magistrate to Land Revenue and Law and Justice.
Criminal Investigation Department ...	6,23,503	4,06,163	4,78,209	4,95,000	5,56,000	5,31,000	Increase is due to larger expenditure on temporary establishment and travelling allowances.
Special Police—							
Assam Frontier Police	184	291	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Bengal Military Police	2,94,747	2,51,826	2,02,851	1,87,000	2,05,000	2,50,000	The cost of the reorganization of the Military Police was provided for under lump provision under District Executive Force in the Budget for 1914-15, but adjusted here.
Frontier Police, Chittagong	45,009	42,841	43,355	48,600	44,500	45,000	
Upper Burma Police charges ...	6,125	6,032	6,542	6,400	6,500	6,400	
Bonus	3,994	63	.....	.....	.....	—400	
Total ...	3,50,059	3,01,053	2,52,748	2,42,000	2,56,000	3,01,000	
Railway Police—							
Jorhat State Railway Police	.....	1,557	1,547	.....	2,000	1,634	
Debru-Sadiya Railway Police ...	1,951	2,537	1,052	.....	2,000	491	
Dacca-Mymensingh Railway Police ...	1,954	3,599	.....	.....	.....	.....	
East Indian Railway Police	84,922	79,901	92,243	1,09,000	93,000	75,000	
Eastern System Railway Police ...	1,84,258	1,73,252	2,00,883	2,10,000	2,14,000	2,14,000	
Bengal and North-Western and Tirhut ...							

Bengal-Nagpur Railway	25,059	22,516	15,784	.....	15,000	20,000	
Cooch Bihar Police	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Assam-Bengal Railway Police	19,411	18,557	14,705	.....	20,000	14,034	
Bonus	2,777	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—159	
Total ...	3,27,181	3,01,972	3,26,214	3,19,000	3,46,000	3,25,000	
Cattle-pound	291	134	236	250	500	250	
Refunds -	1,174	3,132	3,976	2,750	2,500	3,750	
Lump deduction	.....	.....	.....	—2,50,000	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	87,08,211	83,98,859	94,71,081	1,08,98,000	1,03,80,000	1,05,35,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

21.—*Ports and Pilotage—*

Salaries and allowances of officers and men afloat	1,06,186	1,24,693	1,07,006	1,18,000	1,15,000	1,18,000	
Victualling of officers and men afloat ...	33,546	27,771	29,599	32,000	32,000	32,000	
Purchase of marine stores and coal for the building, repairs and outfit of ships and vessels	1,24,485	1,22,569	1,19,825	1,40,000	1,30,000	1,40,000	
Purchase and hire of ships and vessels ...	8,711	16,850	25,056	20,000	15,000	20,000	
Pilotage and Pilot establishment ...	8,30,619	8,18,545	7,97,579	8,20,000	7,23,000	8,21,500	Decrease in the revised is due to smaller payments to pilots on account of partial suspension of trade owing to the war.
Marine establishment	1,75,258	53,763	1,43,872	1,33,000	1,61,000	1,43,000	Increase due to adjustment here of charges not exceeding Rs. 15 for each item incurred by the Agent, Government Consignments, which were hitherto debited to other departments.
Subsidies to Steam-boat Companies ...	7,823	8,494	2,575	7,300	3,000	3,320	
Miscellaneous	23,500	29,329	1,87,163	2,53,000	1,77,000	1,81,000	Decrease in revised is for non-payment of the special provision of Rs. 75,000 for a grant to the Chittagong Port Fund for a grab dredger.
State yacht establishment	14,273	9,906	10,572	12,000	11,000	12,000	
Refunds	3,524	4,089	5,130	4,000	7,000	5,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	—300	.....	+180	
Total ...	13,27,925	12,16,009	14,28,377	15,39,000	13,74,000	14,76,000	

22.—Education—

Heads	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Calcutta University...	66,028	5,15,000	1,18,500	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,15,000	Decrease in the budget is for no provision for grant from Provincial Revenues.
Direction	2,17,189	1,78,080	1,51,032	1,67,000	1,62,000	1,58,000	Decrease is due to the omission of the lump provision for revision of establishment.
Inspection—							
Inspector of European schools ...	22,789	18,162	11,255	12,000	11,500	13,000	
Inspectors of other schools	7,58,883	7,38,617	7,41,347	7,45,000	8,64,000	7,54,000	Increase is due to the increase in office rent of the Inspector and the Inspectress of Schools, Calcutta.
Inspector of hostels and students' messes	13	.....	5,204	4,000	4,500	4,000	Increase in the revised is for arrear increase of pay of officers.
Inspector of technical schools and of industries	16,076	25,709	25,402	28,000	25,000	29,000	
Bonus	6,719	110	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	8,04,480	7,82,598	7,83,208	7,89,000	9,05,000	8,00,000	
Government Colleges—General—							
English Colleges—							
Arts Colleges for boys	7,08,557	7,45,673	7,43,075	7,86,000	8,56,000	7,85,000	Revised includes payment of arrears of increased pay.
Arts Colleges for girls	31,814	30,655	34,660	34,000	41,000	40,000	Increase due to increase of pay of the Lady Principal of the Bethune College.
Eden Hindu Hostel	33,683	30,391	35,900	30,000	35,000	40,000	Revised based on the actuals of 1913-14 and Budget provides for a small increase over revised.
Oriental Colleges—							
Sanskrit College	32,384	33,425	31,738	31,000	40,000	32,000	Increase under revised is under salaries of Professors, etc.
Elliott Madrassah and other attached hostels	9,922	10,065	10,551	12,762	10,000	10,000	
Cost of maintaining messes attached to Government Colleges in Calcutta ...	.....	.....	.....	5,808	.....	5,808	
Bonus	1,616	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Deduct—Probable savings							

Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, Howrah	2,59,935	3,20,920	2,62,146	2,79,000	2,68,000	2,60,000	Decrease in the revised is under allowances and contingencies.
Mining Instruction in the coal-fields ...	.....	5,658	5,190	4,000	6,000	5,000	
Training Colleges for teachers ...	61,302	58,812	71,635	74,000	67,000	73,000	Decrease in the revised is for non-utilisation of the provision for the purchase of apparatus, instruments, etc.
Bonus	641	.....	.....	.....	.....	—500	
Total ...	3,35,128	4,00,575	3,57,324	3,72,000	3,60,000	3,54,000	
Government Schools, General—							
District School Committees	345	306	443	400	400	500	
Secondary Schools—							
For boys—							
High Schools	4,99,044	5,00,867	5,21,888	5,01,000	5,75,000	5,20,000	Budget follows the actuals of 1913-14. Revised includes larger expenditure on salaries, supplies and services and contingencies, specially under boarding charges and rents
Middle English Schools	95,554	88,940	1,08,478	1,19,000	1,20,000	1,14,000	Decrease is under boarding charges.
Middle Vernacular Schools	4,620	3,169	3,163	2,600	3,500	3,000	
For girls—							
High Schools	85,820	80,594	1,06,467	96,000	1,11,000	1,03,000	Larger provision has been made for rents with reference to actuals
Middle English Schools	60,077	59,426	71,483	79,000	89,000	83,000	Larger provision has been made for rents with reference to actuals and for additional Masters and Mistresses.
Middle Vernacular Schools	5,324	7,713	5,250	3,600	7,000	5,000	Ditto ditto.
Female Education Committee ...	.....	.....	250	.....	500	300	
Primary Schools—							
For boys—							
Upper Primary Schools	2,840	4,221	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Lower Primary Schools	.....	.....	1,296	3,000	1,500	2,800	
For girls—							
Upper Primary Schools	2,538	23,036	4,546	6,700	4,500	7,000	
Lower Primary Schools	19,264	.....	18,100	19,000	17,600	19,000	

22.—*Education*—concluded.

Heads	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Circle School grant	45,595	40,022	41,119	42,000	41,000	40,000	
Payment in support of local schools under District Boards	5,99,991	11,64,506	13,88,064	2,88,560	10,76,000	2,88,960	Revised raised by transfer from Imperial grants.
Bonus	9,532	—288	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Zenana classes in Eastern Bengal ...	8,604	8,813	10,864	12,000	12,000	11,000	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+140	.....	—560	
Total ...	14,38,548	19,81,325	22,81,411	11,73,000	20,59,000	11,97,000	
Government Schools, Special—							
Training Schools—							
For Masters—							
Normal Schools	75,237	87,136	84,120	85,000	99,500	90,000	Larger provision has been made for stipends to pupil teachers.
Guru-Training Schools	2,13,361	2,14,067	2,13,069	2,53,000	2,16,000	2,16,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure in stipends to pupils, while the lump provision for reforming the system of training in Eastern Bengal was not utilised.
For Mistresses—							
Training School attached to the Kurseong Boarding School ...	19,009	23,474	24,234	26,000	27,000	28,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure on stipends to pupils and boarding charges.
Training Schools for females at Calcutta	.....	.....	.....	14,987			
Calcutta School of Art	39,955	26,830	35,252	41,000	44,500	44,000	Increase due to inclusion of the rent of hostel.
Government Art Gallery	10,846	9,840	9,584	8,900	10,000	9,000	
Engineering and Survey Schools ...	66,474	83,123	57,116	60,000	48,500	56,000	Decrease in the revised is due to smaller expenditure on supplies and services and contingencies.
Technical and Industrial Schools ...	49,096	54,530	55,662	67,500	59,500	60,000	Decrease due to smaller expenditure on stipends and scholarships and smaller regrant of savings in the stationery allotment.

Other miscellaneous schools	722	1,3 9	2,308	5,800	3,500	5,000	
Agricultural classes and agricultural gardens	2,269	.....	303	2,500	500	2,500	
Bonus ...	2,288	114	6	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+313	.....	—500	
Total ...	5,75,620	5,98,433	5,78,827	6,88,000	6,09,000	6,09,000	
Grants-in-aid	14,28,094	17,24,594	20,99,939	15,06,000	27,53 000	15,06,000	Revised includes additional grants of Rs. 13,19,000 transferred from Imperial grants.
Scholarships	2,19,94	2,24,400	2,41,638	2,44,000	2,46,000	2,44,000	
Miscellaneous	2,17,307	1,20,518	6,42,200	1,40,000	3,25,600	1,44,000	
Lump provision for improving popular education	.....	.....	.....	11,72,000	.....	9,25,000	
Lump provision for secondary education ...	.....	.....	.....	1,28,000	.....	1,50,000	
Lump provision for female education (recurring)	.....	.....	.....	30,000	.....	30,000	
Lump provisi n for hostel buildings outside Calcutta and Dacca	.....	.....	.....	2,17,000	.....	.....	
Hostel buildings in Calcutta	.....	.....	.....	8,70,000	.....	.....	
Dacca University and hostels (non. recurring)	.....	.....	.....	3,00,000	.....	1,00,000	Budget comprises the special non recurring grant for 5 years from 1914-15.
Ditto ditto (recurring) ...	.....	.....	.....	45,000	.....	45,000	
Calcutta University for hostels	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,00,000	Special grant recently sanctioned by the Government of India.
Lump provision for non-recurring expenditure	.....	... ..	.....	5,11,000	.....	.....	
Expenditure from the non-recurring grant of 75 lakhs	.....	.....	.....	30,00,000	.....	8,00,000	4 lakhs could be utilized in non-recurring expenditure debitable to Imperial grants of any kind and the other 4 lakhs on the University Institution and the Baker Hostel buildings.
Expenditure of the recurring grant ...	.....	.....	.....	25,20,000	.....	13,20,000	
Ditto of further grant	.....	.....	.....	1,50,000	.....	1,50,000	
Refunds	2,454	1,097	2,512	2,000	2,000	3,000	
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	.....	.....	.....	—5,00,000	.....	.....	
Total ...	61,21,873	73,76,829	81,12,515	1,45,43,000	85,23,000	1,05,62,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

24.—Medical—

Heads	Actuals			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
Medical establishment—							
Superintendence	87,698	71,388	69,060	81,000	69,000	81,000	Decrease in the revised is for non-appointment of an Indian Medical Service officer as Personal Assistant and savings under allowances and contingencies.
District Medical establishment ...	4,16,581	4,32,112	4,20,714	4,46,000	4,25,000	3,91,000	Decrease due to the deputation of several Indian Medical officers to Military duty.
Reserve Medical Officers and Subordinates	19,190	9,600	11,671	15,000	12,000	12,000	Revised and budget based on actuals.
Bonus	1,660	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	5,25,129	5,13,109	5,01,445	5,42,000	5,06,000	4,84,000	
Hospitals and Dispensaries —							
Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries—							
Medical College Hospital	3,34,259	3,64,393	4,09,790	3,62,000	3,94,000	3,59,000	Decrease in Budget is due to deputation of officers to Military duty. Increase in the revised is under establishment and supplies and services.
General Hospital	2,44,773	2,43,527	2,51,634	2,52,000	2,58,000	2,41,000	Increase in revised is under allowances and supplies and services. Decrease in Budget is for the payment of Municipal taxes, owner's share, by the Public Works Department.
Campbell Hospital	1,24,401	1,25,706	1,41,572	1,43,000	1,37,000	1,41,000	
Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers ...	33,278	37,707	36,213	37,000	32,000	35,000	Decrease in the revised is under salaries owing to the change of incumbent and savings under supplies and services.
Mufassal Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	69,290	1,08,402	1,02,337	91,000	1,15,000	93,000	Increase in the revised is for larger expenditure under salaries.
Grants to Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	2,34,456	2,12,209	3,61,363	1,56,000	3,72,000	1,35,000	Increase in revised is for larger grants for the construction of phthisical wards and other purposes, including special grants of Rs. 38,000 and Rs. 12,000 to the Albert Victor Hospital and the Eden Sanitarium, Darjeeling, respectively.
Medical charges in connection with the Inland Labour Transport Fund ...	1,733	1,279	813	1,300	1,000	1,000	
Bonus	5,223	—16	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	10,47,413	10,93,207	13,03,722	10,42,300	13,09,000	10,05,000	
Sanitation and Vaccination	4,31,025	3,60,086	3,13,063	3,92,000	4,19,000	3,07,000	Increase in revised is due to a special expenditure on sewage investigation in Calcutta. No provision has been made in the Budget for taking anti-malarial measures

Association	3,554	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Based on actuals.
Expenses during the prevalence of epidemics	3,352	1,249	555	2,000	500	1,000	
Value of Medical Stores supplied to charitable institutions	795	1,000	500	1,000	500	500	
Bonus	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Exchange compensation allowance ...	.....	84	.....	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+ 420	
Total grants for Medical purposes ...	21,049	16,177	14,798	17,000	15,000	17,000	
Medical Schools and Colleges—							
Medical Colleges	2,49,881	2,97,843	3,44,959	3,38,000	3,35,000	3,49,000	Budget follows actuals of 1913-14 and includes larger grant for Supplies and Services.
Medical Schools	1,03,900	1,13,503	1,22,813	1,28,000	1,27,000	1,30,000	
Bonus	695	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,54,476	4,11,346	4,67,772	4,66,000	4,62,000	4,79,000	
Lunatic Asylums	1,60,678	1,65,754	1,80,677	1,76,000	1,78,000	1,84,000	Budget includes larger grant for Supplies and Services.
Special Hospitals	10,040	10,601	10,026	11,000	10,000	10,000	
Chemical Examiner	50,185	58,851	40,940	57,000	53,000	59,000	
Refunds	14,748	13,002	18,016	14,928	71,000	15,000	Revised includes Rs. 50,000 refunded to the Indian Research Fund Association being the amount contributed by that body for jungle-clearing.
Lump grant for non-recurring expenditure on sanitation	.....	.....	.....	18,82,772	.....	.....	
Lump recurring grant for ditto ...	.....	.....	.....	9,50,000	.....	9,50,000	
Grant for Medical relief	.....	.....	.....	80,000	.....	20,000	
Lump grant for School of Tropical Medicine	.....	.....	.....	1,50,000	.....	63,000	The provision of one lakh was transferred to the Public Works Department in 1914-15. Rupees 50,000 for equipments will not be spent in 1914-15, but will be required in 1915-16.
Ditto State Medical Faculty ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,000	
Ditto Bengal Council of Medical Registration	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,000	
Lump deduction for probable savings ...	.....	.....	.....	—10,00,000	.....	.....	
GRAND TOTAL ...	26,14,743	26,42,133	28,50,459	47,81,000	30,23,000	36,13,000	

25.—Political—

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned. estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Political Agents	14,648	11,854	14,262	15,500	14,000	15,700	
Durbar presents and allowances to Vakils, etc.	7,872	23,750	15,213	10,000	10,000	10,000	
Miscellaneous	102	3,372	3,500	3,400	4,000	4,300	
Total ...	22,622	38,976	32,975	25,000	28,000	30,000	Revised based on 8 months' actuals

26A.—Agriculture—

Veterinary charges—							
Superintendence	28,086	20,208	20,741	17,000	31,000	21,000	Revised includes the salaries of Superintendent which was formally debited to Imperial but provincialized in 1914-15.
Veterinary Instruction	1,14,699	1,08,947	1,13,196	1,14,000	1,27,000	1,45,000	Revised includes the salary of Principal. Budget includes the cost of an officer under training, motor car charges and pay of constables formerly shown under Superintendence.
Subordinate establishment	33,090	26,202	25,955	36,000	34,000	38,000	
Hospitals and dispensaries	14,828	8,314	17,026	13,000	12,500	16,000	
Cattle-breeding operations	2,098	1,307	49	.....	.....	.....	Budget based on actuals.
Cattle survey	7,879	5,841	137	.....	.....	.....	
Bacteriology	10,272	13,029	13,167	13,000	13,500	13,000	
Bonus	1,355	—12	.....	.....	... ..	.....	
Probable savings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—1,000	
Total ...	2,12,307	1,83,836	1,90,271	1,93,000	2,18,000	2,32,000	
Agriculture—							
Superintendence	1,27,329	76,031	69,265	67,800	70,000	74,000	Budget includes extra establishment for jute forecast work.
Expert staff	76,643	91,420	90,843	1,37,000	1,10,000	1,45,000	Decrease in the revised is due to lapse of lump provision for extra fieldmen. Budget includes cost of additional supervisors and their clerks, one district Agricultural officer three additional laboratory assistants and additional fieldmen demonstrators.
Agricultural College	8,790	124	... ..	.....	.....	.....	
Experimental farms	73,465	74,804	1,22,926	1,39,000	1,32,000	1,26,000	Budget includes smaller provision for ...
Special crops	36,500	4,000	13,875	4,000	...	...	
Agricultural Assistants							

							experiments. Increase in the budget is due to the opening of new nurseries.
Miscellaneous	6,146	6,193	39,466	36,000	38,000	36,000	
Botanical Garden at Sibpur ...	94,781	89,805	81,986	1,00,000	97,000	1,10,000	Budget includes Rs. 7,573 for regrant of savings in the Contract contingent grant.
Grants to Public Gardens	28,464	29,158	31,298	30,000	31,000	30,000	
Zoological Gardens, Calcutta ...	4,620	5,283	5,251	4,800	5,000	5,400	
Botanical Gardens at Darjeeling ...	13,636	14,093	13,986	14,000	14,000	14,000	
Other Government Gardens ...	32,904	39,180	40,098	43,714	37,500	44,784	
Public exhibition and fairs ...	379	2,622	1,408	.....	.....	.....	
Bonus	1,274	....4.	426	.....	.....	.....	
For rounding ...	... ..	.....	.....	186	.....	—184	
Total ...	5,78,456	5,27,250	6,25,099	7,48,000	6,71,000	7,63,000	
Co-operative credit	80,391	61,051	91,406	93,000	87,000	1,02,000	Budget includes provision of additional Auditors and additional expenditure for the expansion of the department.
Lump provision for Agriculture and allied objects	.. ...	.....	.....	1,52,000	.....	20,000	A portion of the grant was used for the acquisition of land and construction of a new veterinary hospital at Dacca which was debited to the Public Works Department
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,71,154	7,72,137	9,06,776	11,86,000	9,76,000	11,17,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals

26B.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.

Scientific—							
Cinchona plantations	3,85,751	6,67,845	2,73,788	2,58,000	2,53,000	2,14,500	Decrease in the budget is for smaller provision for temporary establishment and for omission of the special provision for extensions. Decrease in the revised is for smaller expenditure on chemicals and petty constructions.
Donations to Scientific Societies ...	14,950	15,200	11,984	11,600	15,000	11,870	
Imperial Institute	8	.....	40	.....	100	100	
Labour and Emigration—							
Emigration	19,464	22,224	22,619	23,080	23,000	23,000	
Inland Labour Transport	29,030	22,686	22,014	27,080	34,000	25,000	Revised includes Rs. 9,000 for a bungalow for the Assistant Superintendent of Emigration at Goalundo.
Inspector of Factories	65,022	60,086	57,888	79,000	56,000	68,000	Decrease in the revised is due to lapse of the provision for an additional Inspector and for smaller charges for remunerating medical officers. No provision has been made for the additional Inspector in the budget for 1915-16.
Statistics—							
Gazetteer and Statistical Memoirs ...	3,135	3,726	870	10,000	3,000	7,000	Estimate based on probable requirements.
Registration of railway traffic ...	11,167	9,933	7,682	8,360	8,000	8,000	
Registration of river-borne traffic ...	10,412	5,653	4,135	6,550	5,000	5,000	
Provincial statistics	25,216	30,150	25,769	23,300	25,000	25,000	
Census	1,634	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

26B.—*Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Miscellaneous—							
Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts	5,850	7,625	9,250	9,000	11,000	9,000	
Examinations	441	422	674	700	1,000	1,500	Budget includes charges for Secretariat clerkship examination.
Miscellaneous	37,331	45,415	81,583	86,000	75,000	82,500	Decrease in the revised is for savings in the grant for fishery experiments. Budget includes Rs 57,000, for Fishery Department and Rs 25,500 for Smoke Nuisance Commission
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,000	23,000	The appointment of the Registrar was created from 1st April and the revised represents charges for 11 months. The charges were provided for under Registration, but under the orders of the Controller-General, it is now shown here. Budget includes provision for a Sub-Registrar.
Inspector of Mines	265	125	119	200	100	100	
Refunds	108	726	688	1,200	800	1,500	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	90	.....	—70	
Total ...	6,09,784	8,91,816	5,19,023	5,44,000	5,28,000	5,05,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.

29.—*Superannuation*—

Covenanted Civil Service pensions ...	43,750	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	
Superannuation and retired allowances ...	27,13,887	28,54,278	29,50,154	30,83,000	30,55,000	31,55,000	Provision has been made for the normal growth of expenditure.
Compassionate allowances	2,683	2,648	4,005	4,000	4,500	5,000	Budget based on actuals.
Gratuities	16,380	14,932	12,481	15,000	21,000	15,000	
Ports and Pilotage pensions	8,603	8,493	8,194	8,500	8,000	8,500	
Refunds	334	337	219	500	500	500	
Commuted value of pensions	.....	.....	80,235	75,000	1,50,000	2,00,000	Budget provides for an increase of Rs. 50,000 over revised as advantage is being taken of the new rules about commutation which is sanctioned by the Government of India and other Governments and debited to Bengal when

Forms Department at the Presidency ...	53,391	52,002	59,712	71,000	62,000	.....	Amalgamated with the New Central Jail Press, the combined departments have been designated as "Press and Forms Department."
Stationery purchased in the country ...	24,869	23,130	25,965	27,000	29,000	28,000	
Government Presses	6,74,169	6,24,717	6,36,085	6,84,000	6,00,000	6,94,000	Decrease in the revised is nominal and is due to the adjustment by reduction of expenditure of Rs. 69,000 being the sale-proceeds of the machinery of the Dacca Jail Press taken over by the Gaya Jail. Budget includes the cost of the Forms Department which has now been amalgamated with the Jail Press, while the Dacca Jail Press has been abolished.
Printing at private presses	5,129	1,222	2,505	2,000	3,000	3,000	
Stationery supplied from Central Stores ...	8,19,035	6,32,102	7,58,232	6,60,000	6,60,000	6,60,000	
Refunds	2,428	1,256	2,907	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Total ...	15,79,021	13,34,429	14,85,406	14,44,000	13,56,000	13,87,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

32.—*Miscellaneous*—

Miscellaneous charges for the treatment of patients of the Pasteur Institute ...	1,492	1,296	1,120	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Travelling allowances to officers attending examinations	3,774	7,150	.....	4,000	.....	.....	The charges are now debited to the same head as salaries.
Reward for proficiency in Oriental languages, and allowance to the Language Examination Committee	7,200	4,017	4,378	6,000	3,000	4,000	Based on actuals.
Cost of books and publications ...	47,503	8,112	1,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	Based on actuals.
Donations for charitable purposes ...	1,83,618	2,30,273	2,20,731	1,70,000	2,00,000	1,70,000	Increase in the revised is for special grants to the Calcutta Orphanage, District Charitable Society, and Salvation Army.
Charges on account of European vagrants...	4,103	7,960	4,991	6,000	6,000	6,000	Based on actuals.
Rewards for destruction of wild animals ...	16,503	13,953	19,534	19,000	18,000	17,000	Based on actuals.
Petty establishments	50,291	37,697	57,419	23,000	22,000	21,000	Estimate based on actual requirements.
Special Commissions of Enquiry ...	484	52,274	1,09,840	50,000	1,00,000	20,000	Revised includes Rs. 53,000 for the Port Development Committee and Rs. 44,000 for the District Administration Committee. Budget provides for normal unforeseen requirements.
Irrecoverable temporary loans written off ...	4	2,323	3,507	4,000	2,000	3,000	
Rent, rates and taxes	54,106	45,495	40,305	45,000	40,000	40,000	
Contributions	1,75,287	3,396	10,342	34,800	10,000	14,000	Budget includes larger provision for guarantee of new telegraph lines wanted urgently by the Police Department.

32.—*Miscellaneous*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14	Sanctioned estimate	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges ...	7,245	4,804	99,160	3,06,000	32,000	3,06,000	Revised represents compensation for lands and houses in Dacca. Decrease in the revised is due to debit under proper heads of grants by His Excellency and the reserve for unforeseen requirements. Budget includes 1 lakh for petty grants by His Excellency, 1½ lakhs as general reserve, and ½ lakh for gratuitous relief.
Extraordinary items...	.....	.. ...	229	.....	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous refunds	8,261	2,732	9,716	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Annual stipend to holders of literary titles	.....	4,092	2,908	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Lump provision for grain compensation allowance for all departments ...	.....	.....	.....	4,00,000	.....	4,00,000	The charges have been adjusted under appropriate heads.
Charges for search of hidden treasure ...	.....	36	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Books and subscriptions to periodicals ...	.....	.....	2,138	.....	2,000	2,000	
For rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+200	.....	.....	
Total ...	5,60,371	4,25,610	5,87,418	10,81,000	4,48,000	10,16,000	Revised based on the actuals of the first nine months.

2.—*Irrigation—Major Works (Working Expenses)*—

idnapore Canal	2,43,964	2,06,943	1,78,785	2,10,000	1,58,000	1,97,000	Decrease in the revised is under maintenance and repairs
ijili Tidal Canal	33,122	28,774	1,19,004	86,000	1,00,000	70,000	
Total ...	2,77,086	2,35,717	2,97,789	2,96,000	2,58,000	2,67,000	Revised based on nine months' actuals.
Provincial share ...	1,38,543	1,17,858	1,48,895	1,48,000	1,29,000	1,33,000	

.—*Irrigation—Major Works (Interest on Debt)*—

terest	3,41,301	3,51,236	3,39,987	3,38,000	3,40,000	3,40,000	

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT							
Embankments under the contract system—							
Establishments	2,375	1,882	1,597	2,000	1,500	1,512	
Contingencies	31	48	361	5,500	500	400	Decrease is due to adjustment of the expenditure for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur-Boalia in the Public Works Department. Both budget and revised includes contribution to the Tippera District Board for maintaining gauge and gauge readers in connection with the Gumti embankment.
Allowance	6	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	
Maintenance charges of the Howrah and Rajapur drainage projects	1,426	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Refunds	.....	.....	.....	500	.....	.....	
Bonus	71	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Rounding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+88	
Total in charge of the Civil Department ...	3,909	1,930	1,964	8,000	2,000	2,000	
Provincial share	1,954	965	982	4,000	1,000	1,000	
IN CHARGE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.							
IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION WORKS.							
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept.							
CAPITAL.							
Works in progress							
Midnapore Canal	—3,942	1,198		2,400	.....	13,000	Budget is chiefly for the construction of an escape in the first reach of the Canal.
Hooghly Bidyadhari Canal	.....	12,741		.....	.....	.....	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals	—96,978	—82,320		—55,800	5,79,450	—79,000	Budget represents the credit anticipated on account of the hire of the dredger *Foyers*.
Madaripur Bhil Scheme	4,59,082	95,489		34,500	1,26,600	.....	
Utterbagh lock	14,798	73,852		.....	17,800	.....	The work will be completed in 1914-15.
Survey of the proposed Grand Trunk Canal	.....	.....		.....	3,200	.....	
Total Capital ...	3,72,960	1,00,960	2,07,238	—18,900	7,27,050	—66,000	
REVENUE.							
Orissa Coast Canal	19,016	19,227	27,656	17,400	11,890	22,000	
Calcutta and Eastern Canals	3,01,057	4,39,561	3,88,924	6,12,000	4,37,827	7,57,000	Budget includes special provision for land required for working the dredger *Foyers*.
Madaripur Bhil Scheme	7,210	92,917	1,17,560	60,500	2,59,375	1,74,500	
Total Revenue ...	3,27,283	5,51,705	5,34,140	6,89,900	7,09,692	9,53,500	
Total Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept	7,00,243	6,52,665	7,41,378	6,71,000	14,36,142	8,87,500	

43.—*Minor Works and Navigation* —concluded.

Heads	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.							
Works in progress							
Nadia Rivers	80,226	1,38,461	1,29,341	1,29,000	1,08,068	1,28,000	
Daighatta and Buxi *khals*	4,680	8,637	289	600	480	500	
Total Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept	84,906	1,47,098	1,29,630	1,29,600	1,08,548	1,28,500	
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept							
Works in progress.							
Eden Canal		20,684	39,837	89,000	66,780	59,000	
Improvement of navigable channels—Ganges river	}	54,332	{ 61,847	{ 45,000	60,894	{ 40,000	
Dredging the Bhagirathi entrance ...			.....	.....	.....	.....	
Dredging the Gorai entrance			9,617	1,06,400	25,346	33,000	
Other works		.....	.....				
Bhagirathi observation		.....	.....	.....	12,550	.....	
Dredging the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers		.....					
Bandalling and putting on spurs on the Dhaleswari and Buriganga rivers ...		48,691	82,957	80,000	81,600	86,500	
Grant-in-aid for bandalling the Ganges near Rampur-Boalia		... ..					
Improving the channel of the Karnafuli ...		.....					
Repairs		... ..	.....				
Dredging the Puttimari channel ...		.....	.....	... ..	.....	.....	
Taking tidal observations and making surveys in connection with the proposed canalisation of the Bidyadhari and Peali rivers		.....	3,352	.....	.....	.....	
Total Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept ...	1,17,163	1,23,707	1,97,610	3,20,400	2,47,170	2,18,500	

Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept and of which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.						
WORKS IN PROGRESS.						
Government embankments	.....					
Midnapore takavi embankments under contract	.....	6,12,837	8,55,839	10,94,000	10,02,140	10,37,500
Rajapur and Howrah drainage	.....					
Magra Hat drainage project	.....					
Total Agricultural ...	6,58,487	6,12,837	8,55,839	10,94,000	10,02,140	10,37,500
Reserve	.....	.....	.....	23,000	.....	20,000
Total in charge of the Public Works Department	15,60,799	15,36,307	19,24,457	22,38,000	27,94,000	22,92,000
Provincial share	7,80,399	7,68,153	9,62,228	11,19,000	13,97,000	11,46,000

45.—*Civil Works*—

IN CHARGE OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT.							
Provision for sub-overseers in each subdivision in Bengal to report on the real condition of rural water-supply ...	.....	.....	19,960	14,000	14,000	5,000	
Ferry charges	2,485	2,584	5,461	7,838	6,600	9,000	
„ refunds	7,517	9,505	13,226	12,000	21,000	15,000	
Staging bungalows	4,223	5,660	4,192	3,947	4,000	4,000	
Encamping grounds	17	59	1,069	776	2,200	469	
Arboriculture	13,754	21,146	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Cemetery establishment	.....	.....	2,139	4,613	2,200	4,410	
Contributions in aid of excluded local funds and municipalities	8,28,989	4,36,575	6,72,483	1,74,813	4,64,000	1,76,000	Increase in the revised is for larger grant for water-works sanctioned by transfer from Medical. Budget does not include these grants which have been taken under Medical.
Other items	14,461	1,74,290	13,585	5,150	7,000	.....	
Grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ...	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	11,50,000	
Contribution to district funds and district road funds	10,06,283	8,80,565	7,57,702	7,03,700	9,03,000	8,40,000	Increase in the revised is for larger augmentation grant.
Grants to the Local bodies	.....	.....	34,455	.....	5,000	5,000	
Rounding ...	.....	.....	.....	+163	.....	+121	
Total in charge of the Civil Department ...	30,27,729	26,80,384	25,74,263	20,77,000	25,79,000	22,09,000	

45.—*Civil Works*—concluded.

Heads.	Actuals.			1914-15.		1915-16.	Remarks.
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Sanctioned estimate.	Revised estimate.	Budget Estimate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
In charge of the Public Works Department.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Original Works.							
Civil Buildings ... { In progress ... ... / Not commenced ... }	29,22,156	32,39,655	42,47,697	{ 20,41,100 / 24,19,900 }	47,19,000	{ 20,25,300 / 3,00,000 }	
Communications ... { In progress ... ... / Not commenced ... }	1,95,791	1,71,609	3,09,208	{ 4,04,500 / 6,79,500 }	6,98,000	{ 4,33,700 / 1,24,100 }	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements. { In progress ... / Not commenced ... }	2,59,518	49,052	1,18,999	{ 14,000 / ..... }	69,000	{ 4,900 / ... }	
Total ...	33,77,465	34,60,316	46,75,904	55,59,000	54,86,000	28,88,000	
Repairs.							
Civil Buildings	7,67,270	8,40,843	10,24,747	12,73,000	12,92,000	12,80,000	
Communications	8,43,967	8,80,979	8,77,704	8,00,000	8,93,000	8,10,000	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements ...	68,251	70,971	77,963	1,10,000	1,10,000	1,10,000	
Total ...	16,79,488	17,98,793	19,80,414	21,83,000	22,95,000	22,00,000	
Establishment	10,27,063	9,84,000	9,84,906	11,47,000	12,40,000	13,50,000	
Tools and Plant	63,214	47,470	82,852	70,000	89,000	50,000	
Stock and Suspense	4,666	31,176	—79,691	.....	90,000	.....	
Total in charge of Public Works Department	61,51,896	63,21,755	76,44,385	89,59,000	92,00,000	64,88,000	

APPENDIX C.

Statement of receipts and charges of District Boards and District Road Fund in Bengal.

RECEIPTS.

HEADS OF REVENUE.	Actuals, 1913-14.	Revised estimate, 1914-15.	Budget estimate, 1915-16.	REMARKS.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Land Revenue	558	459	459	
Local Rates	62,45,422	63,45,671	64,88,943	Represent collections of both Public Works Cess and Road Cess
Interest	18,710	28,723	25,512	Revised estimate includes interest on arrear collections of the Public Works Department Cess
Law and Justice—Courts of Law ...	5,688	4,267	4,437	
Police	3,77,770	3,51,387	3,58,235	
Education	15,82,402	10,54,030	8,23,643	
Medical	79,213	81,209	30,147	
Minor Departments	8,205	8,121	7,455	
Superannuation and Pensions ...	.....	.....	.....	
Stationery and Printing ...	10,389	1,900	900	
Miscellaneous	1,44,967	72,602	82,679	
Railways	1,05,668	74,000	63,000	
Minor Works	18,776	17,205	15,970	
Civil Works	12,67,942	10,88,742	9,95,454	
Debt, Deposits and Advances ...	7,32,995	5,51,319	5,13,123	
Total ...	1,05,98,905	96,79,605	94,09,957	
Opening balance ...	19,78,852	36,56,322	12,99,014	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,25,77,757	1,33,35,927	1,06,99,971	

EXPENDITURE.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	Actuals, 1913-14.	Revised estimate, 1914-15.	Budget estimate, 1915-16.	REMARKS.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Refunds	...	2,543	...	
Land Revenue	...	2,260	2,175	
Local Rates	2,97,895	1,91,598	1,92,160	
Interest	13,887	7,572	7,073	
General Administration ...	2,33,940	2,68,985	2,73,960	
Law and Justice—Courts of Law ...	2,803	3,300	4,116	
Police	21,435	28,302	27,305	
Ports and Pilotage	6,933	7,100	8,300	
Education	21,58,575	27,61,335	21,13,148	
Medical	5,31,983	8,62,970	7,77,757	
Minor Departments	69,701	1,01,382	1,36,912	
Superannuation and Pensions ...	53,965	56,061	59,977	
Stationery and Printing ...	26,637	33,096	32,466	
Miscellaneous	20,461	42,558	31,966	
Famine Relief	3,155	450	500	
Railways	...	27,400	...	
Minor Works	55,358	2,24,726	100	
Civil Works	47,00,197	68,07,830	56,05,371	
Debt, Deposits and Advances ...	7,24,510	6,16,445	5,33,469	
Total ...	89,21,435	1,20,45,913	98,06,755	
Closing balance ...	36,56,322	12,90,014	8,93,216	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,25,77,757	1,33,35,927	1,06,99,971	

Obligatory schemes which have been provided for in the budget for 1915-16.

Major budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of Expenditure in 1915-16			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring	Total.	Non recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.—Excise.			Rs	Rs		Rs.	Rs.	
District Executive Establishment—Salar Establishment.	Reorganization of the Excise Department and its amalgamation with the Salt Department.	.....	2,57,811	2,57,811	.....	1,50,000	1,50,000	The reorganization of the Excise Department and its amalgamation with the Salt Department have been sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India. The total cost of the amalgamated establishment will be Rs. 7,90,000, showing an increase over the present sanctioned scale of Rs. 2,57,811 per annum. A provision of Rs. 1,50,000 was made in the Budget for 1914-15 towards the introduction of the scheme, and the same amount has been provided for in the Budget for 1915-16. (Of the total cost of the establishment, a fixed debt of Rs. 2,00,000 will be made to Imperial on account of the Salt Department.)
18.—General Administration								
Civil Secretariat ...	Additional establishment (General Department)	.....	5,100	5,100	.....	5,100	5,100	The work of the Education Department is growing rapidly; and in order to cope with the increase of work, the following additional establishment has been sanctioned:— Rs. 1 ... ... 200 1 ... ... 125 1 ... ... 100 425 × 12 5,100

Major budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made.	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of Expenditure in 1915-16.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
18.—General Administration—*concluded.*		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Legislative Department ...	Officer on special duty in the Legislative Department.	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	A special officer on Rs. 500 is required in connection with the amendment of Bengal Act III of 1889. A special officer is being continually employed in the Legislative Department from February 1913, and the charges were met by reappropriation from savings in the budgets. As it is likely that a special officer will be required throughout the year 1915-16, a provision of Rs. 6,000 has been made.
	Total ...	.....	11,100	11,100	.....	11,100	11,100	
20.—Police.								
Presidency Police ...	Increased police staff for the Bara Bazar section in the Calcutta Police.	19,781	.....	19,781	17,160	.....	17,160	At present 13 additional sergeants are employed temporarily in Bara Bazar to strengthen the police. The cost is shown below :—

	Average cost. Rs.	A.	P.
Pay of 13 sergeants (100—5—125)...	115	4	5
Or ...	1,498	9	5
		× 12	
	17,983	1	0
Contingencies at 10 per cent. of pay	1,798	0	0
	19,781	1	0

In the first year the minimum pay will be drawn, and the charges will be—

	Rs.
	13 × 100 × 12 = 15,600
Contingencies	1,560
	17,160

As the whole staff will not probably be made permanent, it is

		car work.						

Major budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made.	Nature of scheme.	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of Expenditure in 1915-16.			Remarks
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
District Police. Superintendence—	Appointment of a Second Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police	.....	20,000	20,000	.....	20,000	20,000	A second Personal Assistant is required to cope with the increase of work in the Inspector-General's office which has assumed a proportion beyond the capacity of one Personal Assistant to deal with. The proposal involves the addition of an inferior appointment to the cadre. The two new appointments will, if sanctioned, be as follows :— Per mensem. Rs. 1 Superintendent of Police, 5th grade ... 700 Local allowance ... ... 200 House-rent allowance ... ... 150 1 Assistant Superintendent ... ... 500 In addition to this, the following cost is involved :— Rs. A. P. 4 orderlies ... ... 10 8 0 each per mensem, including local allowance. Maintenance of kit ... 1 10 8 per mensem.
District Police ...	Reorganization of the subordinate police in Eastern Bengal (Establishment, etc.) —							The whole scheme has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and effect is being given gradually as funds permit. In the current year's budget there is a provision of Rs. 91,470 recurring, and of Rs. 3,13,385 non-recurring. The Inspector-General of Police wants to provide Rs. 3,03,143 for non-recurring expenditure and Rs 80,518 for recurring expenditure in 1915-16, but as funds are not available the items already sanctioned have been provided for.
	Establishment of a new police-station, Barichang	240	1,470		.....	1,470		
	Establishment of a new centre at Debidnar, Moradnagar police station ...	240	1,470		.....	1,470		
	Establishment of a police-station at Palma ...	380	2,615		.....	2,615		
	Establishment of a police-station at Jaypurhat ...	120	780		.....	780		
	Reconstitution of town police at Rampur Boalia	280	1,816		.....	1,816		
	For urgent requirements of opening new investigating centres ...	.....	1,849		.....	1,849		
	Total ...	1,260	10,000	11,260	.....	10,000	10,000	

	Bengal districts :—							State and effect is being given gradually. In the current year's budget, Rs. 71,512 recurring, and Rs. 4,50,263 non-recurring have been provided. The Inspector-General of Police wants Rs. 49,562 for recurring, and Rs. 4,14,312 for non-recurring expenditure during 1915-16. As funds are not available to the full extent, the recurring charges have been provided for.
	Seven sub-inspectors ...	.....	7,140		.....	7,140		
	Eight head-constables ...	160	2,632		160	2,352		
	Stores for steam-launches	.....	10,000		.....	10,000		
	Hospital supplies and furniture	500	.....		500	.....		
	Staff for workshop ...	.....	5,040		.....	5,040		
	Establishment for Inspector's launch ...	.....	3,270		.....	3,270		
	Establishment for six thana launches	.....	11,760		.....	11,760		
	Total ...	660	39,842	40,502	660	39,562	40,222	
	Total ...	21,701	87,987	1,09,688	17,820	82,142	99,962	
22.—EDUCATION—GOVERNMENT COLLEGES—GENERAL.								
Arts Colleges for Girls ...	Creation of one additional appointment in the Indian Educational Service.	.....	8,400	8,400	.....	6,000	6,000	It is proposed to appoint an Indian Educational Service Officer as Lady Principal of the Bethune College in place of an appointment on Rs. 200 a month in the Provincial Educational Service. The pay of the post will be Rs. 500—50—700 a month, with a local allowance of Rs. 200.
24.—MEDICAL ...	Council of Medical Registration, Bengal.	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	The Council of Medical Registration will require— Rs. Establishment ... ... 7,000; Allowances ... ... 5,270; Law charges ... ... 2,000; Printing charges ... . 10,000; Stamps ... ... 1,300; Office furniture and contingencies ... 3,000; Total ... 28,570. As the probable receipts from Registration are estimated to amount to Rs. 20,000, a grant of Rs. 10,000 from Provincial Revenues will have to be given to the Council to start with.
24.—MEDICAL ..	Establishment of a State Medical Faculty for the examination of medical students.	.....	10,000	10,000	.....	10,000	10,000	A grant of Rs. 10,000 (approximate) will have to be given towards the pay of the Registrar and the establishment.
	Total ...	.....	20,000	20,000	.....	20,000	20,000	

Major budget head and sub-head under which provision has been made	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate maximum cost.			Estimate of Expenditure in 1915-16.			Remarks.
		Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
26A.—Agriculture.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Veterinary and stallion charges.	Second European officer for Bengal Veterinary College	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	6,000	6,000	This is necessary for the proper working of the college. The proposal has been recommended to the Secretary of State.
Expert staff	Fieldmen, Demonstrators and Apprentices ...	.....	6,000	6,000	.....	5,000	5,000	
Registrar of Co-operative Societies.	Additional establishment for the Department of Co-operative Societies ...	.....	13,668	13,668	.....	9,716	9,716	The Registrar presses the necessity for the additional establishment being employed otherwise it will not be possible to carry out even the legal duties under the Act.
								Minimum. Maximum. Rs.
								1 Weaving expert ... ... 150—10—200
								1 Inspector ... ... 150—10—200
								2 Inspectors ... ... 200—20—300
								4 Auditors ... ... 200—10—300
								1 Office clerk ... ... 60— 3— 75
								8 Peons ... ... 64——— 64
								Total (monthly) ... 824——1,139
								Total (annually) ... 9,888— 13,668
	Total ...	.....	25,668	25,668	.....	20,716	20,716	
32.—Miscellaneous.								
Contributions ...	Maintenance and working of telegraph lines.	.....	30,000	30,000	.....	10,000	10,000	This is required for guarantees of telegraph lines in the mufassal which it is desirable to open for administrative reasons. The necessity for increased telegraph facilities is specially felt by the police department, and their extension would be of great assistance in the prevention and detection of crime.
	Grand Total ...	21,701	4,40,966	4,62,667	17,820	2,99,958	3,17,778	

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned to Tuesday, the 6th April, 1915.

A. W. WATSON,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal and
Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA ;
The 30th March, 1915.

B. S. Press—22-4-1915—4398J—500—J. L. C. & others.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892 and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Tuesday, the 6th April, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present:

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., AMIR-UL-OMRAH.

The Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sircar.

The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, c.i.e.

The Hon'ble Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti.

The Hon'ble Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, k.c.s.i., k.c.i.e., i.o.m., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, c.i.e.

The Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray.

The Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Mr. W. T. Grieg.

The Hon'ble Mr. G. A. Bayley.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.

The Hon'ble Mr. Golam Hossein Cassim Arbel.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Hussain.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.

The Hon'ble Nawab Syed Hossam Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.

The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, c.i.e.

The Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.

The Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.

The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Six monthly publication of sanitary proj

*1. Are the Government considering the advisability of publishing six-monthly statements showing the number of projects brought before the Sanitary Board and matured and recommended by them for the consideration of the Government?

The Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN replied :—

"The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Proposed amendment of the Act.

*2. Will the Government be pleased to state when the proposed amendment of the Cess Act is to be brought forward?

The Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN replied :—

"The proposal to amend the Cess Act is still under consideration and at this stage it cannot be definitely stated when the Bill will be brought forward."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Fisheries in Bengal.

*3. Will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken with a view to giving effect to the recommendations made from time to time by the officers appointed to report on Fisheries in Bengal?

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to bulletin No. 5 of the Department of Fisheries which has recently been published, and a copy of which is laid on the table."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR :—

Proposed improvement in sanitation.

1. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the projects for the improvement of sanitation which have been submitted to the Government by the Sanitary Board for sanction during the current financial year, and the orders passed thereon?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A statement is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to question No. 1 (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Maharaja Bahadur Sinha of Nashipur at the Council Meeting of the 6th April, 1915.

LIST OF SANITARY PROJECTS SUBMITTED BY THE SANITARY BOARD DURING 1914-1915.

	Project.	Nature of project submitted.	Orders passed by Government.
1	Water-supply, Dacca Municipality ...	Sketch project ...	Administrative approval given.
2.	Improvement of sanitation, Munshiganj ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
3.	Water-supply, Riparian Municipalities (combined scheme).	Ditto ...	Still under the consideration of Government.
4.	Water-supply, Madaripur Municipality ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
5.	Combined drainage and water-supply improvement scheme, Mymensingh Municipality	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
6.	Water-supply extension, Narainganj Municipality.	Detailed project	Sanctioned. Government gave a contribution of Rs. 1,00,000 against the total estimated cost of Rs. 1,70,000.
7.	Water-supply, Uttarpara Municipality ...	Ditto ...	Sanctioned. Government gave a contribution of Rs. 44,815 against the total estimated cost of Rs. 1,30,546.
8.	Drainage, Kurigram	Ditto ...	Sanctioned. Government gave a contribution of Rs. 2,000 against the total estimated cost of Rs. 8,275.
9.	Water-supply, Satkhira Municipality ...	Ditto ...	Still under the consideration of Government.
10.	Water-supply, Asansol Municipality ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto
11.	Water-supply, Nator Municipality ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
12.	Drainage, Gaibanda	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur :—

II.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the dredging operations at the entrance of the river Bhagirathi are to be continued during the next financial year ?

(*b*) If so, what amount is likely to be spent for the purpose ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. COWLEY was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "As at present arranged, dredging operations at the entrance of the river Bhagirathi will be continued during the next financial year. Government are, however, awaiting the receipt of a report from Major Hirst, who is now investigating the condition of the river.

(*b*) A sum of Rs. 11,000 has been provided for the purpose."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur :—

III.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of seizures and deaths from small-pox in Calcutta from January till March, 1915, and for the corresponding period of the last three years ?

Mr. Samman; Babu U. L. Ray; Mr. Kerr.

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"A statement showing the number of deaths from small-pox in Calcutta during the months in question is laid upon the table.

Accurate statistics for the number of seizures are not available, as many cases which recover are not reported."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Samman to Question No. III unstarred asked by the Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha at Nashipur at the Council meeting of the 6th April, 1915.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM SMALL-POX IN CALCUTTA FROM JANUARY TILL MARCH, 1915, AND FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF THE LAST THREE YEARS.

MONTHS.	1915.	1914.	1913.	1912.
January	524	38	4	3
February	523	71	10	5
March	806	121	20	13
Total ...	1,853	230	34	21

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

IV.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the amount spent year by year for salaries of officers and costs of investigation in regard to the Fishery Department in Bengal for the years 1911 to 1914 ? Costs of Fishery Department in Bengal

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"A statement giving the required information by financial years is laid on the table. Figures for the calendar years are not available."

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Kerr to Question No. IV unstarred asked by the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray at the Council meeting of the 6th April, 1915.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF SALARIES OF OFFICERS AND INVESTIGATIONS IN THE FISHERY DEPARTMENT, BENGAL, FOR THE YEARS 1911-12 TO 1913-14.

	1911-12	1912-13.	1913-14	REMARKS
Officers ...	7,500	13,599	16,449	
Establishment ...	1,889	1,392	2,300	
Allowances ...	5,542	5,907	8,707	
Total ...	14,931	20,898	27,456	
Other expenses ...	3,122	5,259	33,905	This represents the cost of investigation and other miscellaneous expenses.
GRAND TOTAL ...	18,053	26,157	61,361	

Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq : Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad ; Mr. Samman.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ :—

Establishment of stels and board-houses for idents.

V.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what were the amounts budgeted for expenditure under the head of "Establishment of Hostels and Boarding Houses for Students" during the financial years 1912-13, 1913-14 and 1914-15 ;

(*b*) what amount has actually been expended in this behalf during that time ; and

(*c*) how much of this money has been spent for hostels and boarding-houses for the accommodation of Muhammadan students only ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "No separate budget provision was made during the financial years 1912-13, 1913-14 and 1914-15.

(*b*) The amounts actually expended in this behalf are as follows —

	Rs
1912-13	5,47,579
1913-14	4,66,274
1914-15	7,81,364

(*c*) Out of the total expenditure on hostels, the following amounts were spent for hostels and boarding houses for the accommodation of Muhammadan students only :—

	Rs
1912-13	58,497
1913-14	65,239
1914-15	86,380

These figures do not include the expenditure incurred on private hostels, but it was made a condition of the grant of aid to such hostels in most cases that 20 per cent. of the accommodation should be reserved for Muhammadans."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD :—

Sinking of wells the district of urshidabad

VI.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any borings have been taken in the district of Murshidabad with a view to sinking wells to tap subterranean springs for drinking and agricultural purposes, in the same way as has been done in the districts of Rajshahi and Sylhet ?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state where and how many such borings have been taken and with what results, and whether these operations are being still continued or not ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "The answer is in the negative."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD :—

Restoration of osques and monu-ents in the city f Murshidabad.

VII.—Is it a fact that Government are taking steps for bringing certain mosques and monuments in the city of Murshidabad under the operation of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act with a view to their complete restoration ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. SAMMAN was laid on the table :—

"Government are taking steps to bring certain mosques and monuments in or near the city of Murshidabad under the operation of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act with a view to their preservation."

Mr. G. H. C. Ariff; Mr. Cumming.

By the Hon'ble Mr. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF :—

Posting of Muhammadan Sub-Inspectors of Police to Alipore.

VIII.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) why no Muhammadan Sub-Inspector of Police has been posted to the Alipore Reserve Force during the last 21 years ; and

(*ii*) why no Muhammadan Inspector of Police has been posted to the Subdivision of Alipore since 1909 ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

(*i*) "No Sub-Inspector is sanctioned for the reserve force at Alipore. It is presumed that by 'reserve force,' the old 'armed reserve,' now called the 'fixed reserve,' is meant.

(*ii*) Inspectors of Police belong to a provincial cadre and are posted to particular charges according to the convenience and exigencies of the public service."

By the Hon'ble Mr. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF :—

Certain statistics in regard to the Calcutta Police.

IX.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of—

(*i*) Inspectors,

(*ii*) Sub-Inspectors, and

(*iii*) Head Constables

in the Calcutta Police force, and how many of them are—

(*a*) Europeans,
(*b*) Anglo-Indians,
(*c*) Hindus, and
(*d*) Muhammadans ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of vacancies under the heads (*i*), (*ii*) and (*iii*) in the years 1913 and 1914, and how these vacancies were filled up ?

(*c*) Were any untrained men taken on in these vacancies ?

(*d*) If so, how many of these were—

(*a*) Europeans,
(*b*) Anglo-Indians,
(*c*) Hindus, and
(*d*) Muhammadans ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) The following statement gives the desired information :—

Castes.	No. of Inspectors.	No. of Sub-Inspectors.	No. of Head Constables.
Europeans	7	24	Nil
Anglo-Indians	10	14	Nil
Hindus	12	46	312
Muhammadans	2	21	151
Others (Bengali Christian)	1	1	Nil
Total ...	32	106	463
Vacancies	1	3	1
Sanctioned strength ...	33	109	464

(*b*) The following table gives the information :—

	No. of vacancies.	How filled up.
1913.		
Inspector ...	1	By promotion of a Hindu Sub-Inspector.
Sub-Inspectors ...	9	All filled up by promotion of Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors, of whom 2 were Europeans, 4 Anglo-Indians, 2 Hindus and 1 Muhammadan.
Head Constables ...	9	In one vacancy a Muhammadan outsider was appointed and the remaining eight vacancies were filled up by the promotion of 2 Muhammadan and 6 Hindu constables.
1914.		
Inspectors ...	5	Two Europeans were appointed to two posts requiring officers of that class. Promotion was given to 2 Sub-Inspectors (1 Hindu and 1 Anglo-Indian) and 1 specially qualified Hindu Inspector was obtained from Bihar to start the training school.
Sub-Inspectors ...	31	Nine vacancies were filled up by the appointment of outsiders, of whom 1 was a European, 3 were Anglo-Indians, 2 were Hindus and 3 Muhammadans, and 12 by promotion of 6 European Sergeants, 3 Anglo-Indian Sergeants and 3 deserving Hindu Head Constables. For 10 posts officers were obtained from the District Police, of whom 4 were Muhammadans and 6 Hindus.
Head Constables ...	54	Fifty-one vacancies were filled by the promotion of 17 Muhammadan and 34 Hindu constables. In three vacancies Muhammadan outsiders were appointed direct.

By the Hon'ble Mr. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF :—

Number of appointments as Sergeants in the Calcutta Police force in 1913-14.

X.—(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the total number of appointments as Sergeants in the Calcutta Police Force made in the years 1913 and 1914?

(*b*) How many of these appointments were given to—

(*i*) Europeans,

(*ii*) Anglo-Indians,

(*iii*) Hindus, and

(*iv*) Muhammadans?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

(*a*) & (*b*) "Europeans and Anglo-Indians only are appointed to be Sergeants in the Calcutta Police Force. The following table gives the information required :—

	NUMBER APPOINTED IN—	
	1913.	1914.
Europeans ...	63	66
Anglo-Indians	8	29
Total ...	71	95

By the Hon'ble Mr. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF :—

Recruitment of Inspectors, Sergeants and Head Constables for the Calcutta Police force.

XI.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether Sub-Inspectors, Sergeants and Head Constables, recruited for the Calcutta Police force from districts outside Calcutta, receive the necessary training before they are posted to thanas?

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The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING was laid on the table :—

"Sergeants are not employed in thanas. Sub-Inspectors obtained from the District Police are at once posted to thanas. Sub Inspectors and Head Constables recruited otherwise than from the District Police are trained at the Police School at Dullundar."

THE BENGAL BUDGET, 1915-16.

The Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD said :—

"My Lord,

I shall content myself with making a few general remarks on the Budget.

This year, which is signalised by the most expensive war ever waged, has opened inauspiciously in this province as in other sister provinces. The outstanding feature of the Budget this year unhappily shows, therefore, unmistakable traces of dislocation of all business and consequent shrinkage of trade and revenue as against the rapid expansion of public expenditure which had to be unduly but unavoidably restricted. And while there is not the slightest doubt as to the ultimate issue of the redoubtable conflict in which the British Empire is now engaged, great efforts are being made by Government and the people alike to weather out the economic disturbance caused by circumstances over which we have no control.

The public have, therefore, reason to be gratified with the careful and satisfactory character of the financial statement, and the Finance Member may well congratulate himself upon the very discreet and resolute course adopted by him in meeting the situation created by the war. This prudential Budget, if I may call it so, would, therefore, disarm much of the criticism which it would otherwise have encountered in a normal year.

On reference to the revised Budget for the current year, it will be seen with satisfaction that the actual opening balance was found to be nearly 93 lakhs better than what was anticipated. The revenue receipts, however, show a decrease of over 20 lakhs, which could only be made up for by heavy retrenchments in expenditure to the extent of 79 lakhs. The contraction of revenue during the present year is surely not entirely due to the war. Land revenue, which was expected to expand considerably this year, actually dropped by over 11 lakhs.

It is the jute trade that appears to have been hit the hardest by the war and is indirectly responsible for the decline of revenue under numerous heads, such as Land Revenue, Excise, Forest, Registration and also Irrigation due to stoppage of jute traffic in the canals. So have also the heads Stamps, Ports and Pilotage been adversely affected owing to the dislocation of trade in general caused by the war. The result has been not only a great diminution of trade receipts but also an almost all-round fall of revenue. These exceptional circumstances have necessitated extensive curtailments. No one will regret curtailments, but the curtailments of grants on Education and Sanitation, the two most vital necessities for the well-being of the inarticulate masses, are extremely deplorable. The urgent need of some aid to primary education and the necessity of finding funds for industrial subsidy to indigenous enterprises at an opportune moment when the Austro-German trade has collapsed, can hardly be overlooked. Unless education receives adequate encouragement at the hands of Government, it may give rise to general dissatisfaction.

In view of the increasing distress of the people, due to the ever-rising prices of grains in the country, there is no denying the fact that the economic resources of the masses have become extremely strained, the result of which

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is perpetual indebtedness of the people. And so I may safely say that the widespread distress experienced at the present moment is no exaggeration. The people have for some years past been steadily hoping against all hope of paying off the money-lender and steadily getting into debt more and more. All hopes of a solution of the present problem cannot be realised by the people themselves without the most eagerly-sought-for help of the benign Government.

There are obvious disadvantages in postponing or retarding the development of some of the incipient measures which have already involved a certain amount of costs and must consequently entail, besides great inconvenience and equally great disappointment, some undesirable wastage owing to their receiving sudden temporary check at present. And there are questions that seem fated always to make their appearance only to have their settlement relegated to some more favourable time that may not arrive. It is much to be wished unquestionably that the very welcome special Imperial gifts of the last two years with regard to Education, Sanitation and the Police should have been found possible to re-grant. But as it is imperative that all other considerations at the present moment should be subordinated to the husbanding of the financial resources of Government, I am sure we shall loyally and resignedly accept them as unavoidably adverse effects of the great war for which there is no arguing with the Almighty, and that we shall only be too proud to bear a little share of the general burden along with the rest of the Empire.

In conclusion, my Lord, I do not for a moment wish to be understood to imply that the Government of India will ever treat your Excellency's Government unjustly when I say that the unexpended balances of the Imperial grants reserved or restricted this year should be held to the credit of your Excellency's Government to be drawn upon whenever a favourable atmosphere is re-established for resuming action more energetically than ever. And I feel sure that the spirit in which the great reforms are being tackled by your Excellency's Government gives the best possible assurance of their being brought to a successful conclusion within a measurable distance of time."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR said:—

"MY LORD,

I beg to congratulate the Hon'ble the Finance Member for the sagacity and foresight with which the Provincial Budget for the year 1915-16 has been framed and presented before the Council for adoption.

On comparing certain items in the statements, I regret to observe that an amount of expenditure of Rs. 1,03,000 has been estimated for High English Schools for girls, which is a far greater amount than that budgeted for Middle Vernacular Schools for girls, which is only Rs. 5,000. I consider Middle Vernacular Schools for girls to be more necessary in the agricultural districts of Bengal than High English Schools. I further beg to ask that the Government be pleased to consider the advisability of arranging for the teaching of some minor industry and meeting the cost of this undertaking by transferring a portion of the sum set apart for High English Schools for girls. I beg to remark further that no provision has been made in the estimates for Upper Primary Schools for boys, whereas Rs. 7,000 has been estimated for the Upper Primary Schools for girls. To this invidious distinction I respectfully beg to invite the attention of Government.

I venture also to submit for the consideration of Your Excellency's Government whether it is not justifiable to transfer a certain portion, out of the allotment of Rs. 3,59,000, estimated for the Presidency hospitals and dispensaries, towards the improvement of mufassal dispensaries, for which

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only an amount of Rs. 93,000 appears to have been budgetted—a sum to my mind quite inadequate. In connection with this, I venture particularly to bring to the notice of Your Excellency's Government the backward condition of the Comilla Charitable Dispensary. This dispensary is most unsatisfactory both as regards its equipment and accommodation. For instance, in the recent murder case at Comilla, the bullet-shot in the female patient could not be extracted for want of an X-ray.

My Lord, with these few observations I venture to urge for the improvement of the condition of the existing dispensaries situated in the outlying districts of Bengal.

General Education.—It is superfluous for me to attempt to prove the fact that with the increase of population, the need for general education has become greater. The well-meant endeavours of the State have always been employed towards popularising such educational schemes amongst the people which have as their aim the earning of an independent livelihood and the familiarising of the people of this country with all that is best and brightest in English life.

Primary Education.—I am glad to see that greater facilities have been given to the people in the matter of Primary Education which kindness and the benefits accruing from the course of instruction in this branch of education the people fully realise and appreciate. But there is one scheme, I think, that remains to be considered and that is the establishment of good schools in backward localities. This, of course, will necessitate increased recurring expenditure for the upkeep and repairing of these new schools. I would, therefore, venture to observe that a reasonable allotment of funds for the upkeep of all such new Primary Schools to be built in Eastern Bengal, and of schools proposed to be built in Western Bengal, be ear-marked for future years. But considering the financial outlook of the province, which appears to be so disquieting at present, I am not inclined to offer any suggestion for a specific amount under this head. As I have said, it will necessarily involve an additional outlay of expenditure, but I rest assured that through the renewed generosity of the Supreme Government it may be made possible to carry out such a programme in the near future.

Muhammadan Education.—There is no doubt that the prosperity and the moral and the material progress of the Muhammadan community depend almost entirely on the growth of education both in its higher and lower branches, and as the educational policy of Government is always progressive, our community expect, by way of encouragement, some additional grants for scholarships in the different stages of Muhammadan education. There is also a great need of hostels for Muhammadan boys, the liberal establishment of which will ensure the opening of a new chapter of progress in the interest and welfare of our community. I beg leave to suggest that steps be gradually taken for the establishment of a large number of maktabs all over the province, similar to primary schools, for improving the status of primary education among Muhammadan boys. I would further observe that a certain amount be specially devoted to making provision for the entertainment of competent additional Urdu teachers in those maktabs where the number of pupils reading in this subject is large. As there is hardly any time now to suggest an alteration in the budget, I hope that this proposal will not be lost sight of, and that effect will be given to the suggestion as soon as the necessary funds become available. The scheme drawn up by Sir Archdale Earle for the opening of Mianji training schools and the appointment of inspecting maulvis in the districts of Burdwan and Presidency Divisions might with advantage be extended to the Eastern Bengal districts. Such a step will, I am sure, succeed in attracting Muhammadan parents and guardians and encourage them to send their children more freely to these institutions. I

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Industrial education.—Another suggestion, which, I venture to think, will be of the greatest value and good to the masses is that (with a view to making India more self-supporting and less dependent upon the resources of other countries, and with a view of the present necessity that has sprung up for placing the industrial efficiency of the country on a better and a more satisfactory footing) it seems imperative and necessary that the energies of the Government be concentrated towards promoting the growth of indigenous industries along with the development of agricultural education, and that with this object the Government be pleased to support the starting and pioneering of new industries by the establishment of industrial and commercial, or trade, schools in all important centres of the province, for the practical training and education of workmen. I respectfully urge on the attention of the Government the absolute need there is for a full and free discussion of this important subject, perhaps the most important problem which British statesmen are called upon to solve. The national regeneration of India cannot be a *fait accompli* unless we attempt at making our people potential factors in the national life of the country. My lord, we consider the British rule in India as a reign of good law, and that it is for the good of humanity and justice. And, strong in this confidence, I emphatically urge that systematic and well-organised endeavours be made to bring home to the people of this vast province the different industrial possibilities open to them. Attempts should be made to create new fields of livelihood for the young men of this province, and for the generations to come hereafter, and thus to render invaluable service towards the advancement of national industries. Though much has been done in many ways in the direction of national improvement, still there are many ways for further development of the latent resources of the country. The longer the expansion of our indigenous industries be delayed, the greater will be our difficulties in gaining for ourselves a recognised position among the nations of the world. Every true friend of Indian Nationalism will be bound to stimulate the idea of promoting the welfare of our great and homogeneous province in the various fields of labour. I submit my observations on this question for the best consideration of the Government, and in the true interest of our national progress as I feel that the need for the establishment of all kinds of industries in the land is growing in importance day by day.

Rise in the price of food-stuffs.—There is another important matter which I consider extremely grave, that is, the fluctuation in the price of food-grain and other eatables. The people experience an unpleasant surprise owing to the rise in the price of food materials and other necessaries of life, and a further rise might be followed with disastrous consequences. It is, I know, difficult to forecast whether the price will be higher or lower, as the future is uncertain and dependent upon circumstances beyond the control of Government. But it is necessary that the Government should have a strict control over the local markets and impose when necessary a reasonable price on food-grains, and adopt such precautionary measures as seem necessary for the prohibition of all private export of food-grains for at least some time to come from this part of our country.

Sanitation.—I need not say much on this matter as the policy of the Government is already laid down. I beg, however, to invite the attention of Your Excellency's Government to the desirability of bringing the milk-sellers and milk-cattle-keepers under the efficient control of the Health Department. They should be registered and a penalty imposed on those who are found to be in possession of adulterated milk. It would indeed be a strange reflection on our progressive administration that we should be wanting in a law penalising adulteration of important articles of food, such as milk, butter, ghee and such others. Your Excellency's Government would be deserving of special commendation from all sections of the public, if steps be taken to save the situation from becoming worse and to employ even stringent measures to correct the abuses which are a blot on our administration.

Mr. G. A. Bayley.

Conclusion.—The useful reforms, which have brought about a most noticeable improvement in the general efficiency of the various departments, bear testimony to Your Excellency's far-sighted statesmanship and exceptional administrative ability.

Finally, I congratulate Your Excellency's Government for a careful supervision and a wise control over the affairs of the province during the year under review."

The Hon'ble Mr. G. A. BAYLEY said:—

"My Lord,

I regret that the Budget makes no provision for the long-expected grant to the port of Chittagong, and, with Your Excellency's permission, I would like to press the claims of this port.

Last year I had the honour to urge the financial needs of the port for funds to enable the river approaches to be put into a condition adequate to give sufficient depth of water for Ocean steamers at all times. Your Excellency's Government then gave hopes of early inquiry, but for one cause and another, and chiefly owing to the state of War, our expectations have not been fulfilled and no inquiry has taken place, and we are now, I regret to say, after the lapse of a year, no nearer a definite statement of the long-hoped-for relief Government is prepared to give.

We realize the enormous difference in the conditions of finance which the war has caused, but we do not understand why this should prevent a full consideration of our position and a declaration of the policy of the Bengal Government.

The value of the Chittagong port in relation to the welfare of the hinterland is beyond doubt. His Excellency Lord Curzon, when Viceroy, at a visit to the port in 1904, during his speech said: "We think that this expenditure is both in the interests of the port and the railway. The Government have spent enormous sums upon the latter and from the strictly business point of view the best chance of getting a due return for the outlay is to provide the proper facilities for the trade which it is in a position to create. I hoped that these announcements will put fresh heart into your people and will pave the way for the rise of Chittagong to what, in my opinion, is its natural destiny, viz., to be the principal outlet of the trade of Eastern Bengal and Assam," and this opinion has been repeated by other high-placed officials. Therefore, it is natural for us to wish to know whether the fostering of this port, which I have just mentioned as so necessary for the interests of a large, densely-populated, and wealthy part of your province, is to be undertaken by Your Government, or whether for financial causes this is impossible, in which case we can only look for aid from the Government of India.

The Port Commissioners have lately received from their engineer a progressive scheme for the improvements needed, which includes training works, revetment, and dredging, the cost of which is placed at about 72 lakhs of rupees; in this scheme is included the dredger and hoppers to which I made reference last year as being of immediate necessity. The scheme can be spread over a number of years, but a yearly grant will be necessary, and it is the means for providing this for which we claim a hearing.

During the year there were four recorded cases of "Clan" line steamers being compelled to sail without full cargoes either to avoid being neaped or because of being neaped, and it is also true that cargoe has gone past the port, because such could not be accepted by the largest steamers of this steamship company for fear of navigation difficulties; moreover, other steamships have met with similar troubles. The numbers of larger draught ships are yearly on the increase, but since the provision of the first dredger in

1907, or eight years ago, no appliances for the deepening of the channel or for maintaining the existing depth have been provided. Further, as our one dredger has to proceed to Calcutta every year for overhauling and repairs, there is a period of some four or five months when nearly all the work of one year is liable to be wasted by fresh silt-forming.

The Calcutta Dockyard authorities have also just informed us that about Rs. 50,000 is necessary for replacement of worn out parts of the dredger, and also that the launch "Gokho" will require a new hull at a cost of nearly 1½ lakhs, which with the small grab dredger we are purchasing for Rs. 75,000, will require a sum more than our available balance.

I believe I am correct in saying that very large initial grants were provided by Government to the ports of Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Karachi, and Rangoon in the early days when these ports were unable to raise loans to enable them to offer the facilities necessary to accommodate the trade, which legitimately was bound to be handled at each port, but the Chittagong port is only partly yet so provided. I, therefore, only ask for a similar treatment, and, in fact, unless a grant is soon made, the Ocean trade is bound to have a set-back. It is a well-known fact that ports assist the development of provinces, chiefly through the agency of railways, and as considerable sums have already been spent both on the port and on railway connections, is it not a pity to arrest such development by a failure to supply the funds which will eventually so amply repay the Government?

The representation I am making does not put forward any new facts; on the contrary, what I have said is well known to Your Excellency's Executive Council, and was also well known to the late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. The latter Administration naturally took a very great interest in the development of a port which was so closely connected with the progress of the province, and perhaps it is not known to Your Excellency that the arrangements for providing the second dredger had come to a head just prior to the close of the Administration of the Eastern Bengal and Assam Government, but that, since the Chittagong port has come under the Government of Bengal, the provision of the dredger, the need of which we had thought as conclusively proved, has unfortunately been postponed.

I, therefore, urge, my Lord, for an expression of opinion as to whether Your Government recognizes the possibilities for usefulness of this port as a means of development of the tract of country it should serve, as judging by the want of practical assistance of late years we are almost reluctantly forced to fear we are considered of little importance; further, if Your Excellency's Administration can undertake, in due course, the provision of the whole or a part of the funds requisite, or failing the possibility of this, whether Your Excellency's Government will press our necessity on the Government of India."

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN said:—

"MY LORD,

I understand that 4½ lakhs have been allocated to the improvement of the Dooars Roads programme for expenditure during the current year, and I desire, on behalf of the Dooars, to thank Government for this provision and for the progress made towards this important work in the past year. I regret that it was not found possible to expend the full amount provided for in last year's Budget, but trust that this year, with the improved local organization that has recently been established, there will be no difficulty in carrying out the full programme for which funds can be provided.

While on the subject of communications, I trust your Excellency will permit me to draw the attention of Government to the inadequacy of railway communications in Northern and North-Eastern Bengal. Now that the

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Hardinge Bridge over the Ganges has been opened for traffic, what is most urgently required is an extension of the Eastern Bengal State Railway broad gauge to Siliguri. The present arrangement of transhipment of goods from the broad to the meter gauge at Santahar cannot adequately meet the requirements of this immensely important district and the hardship involved by passengers, bound for Darjeeling, the Dooars and Assam, having to break gauge at midnight at Santahar, is so great as to merit the serious consideration of Government. The delay in the Postal Service since the opening of the Hardinge Bridge, of which no doubt Government are fully aware, is another reason for the extension of the broad gauge. An extension to Parbatipur Junction in the immediate future would greatly improve the train service both for goods and passengers, and I trust your Excellency's Government will, in the interests of this Province, represent these matters to the Railway Board and to the Imperial Government.

I would like also to draw the attention of Government to the very reasonable and temperate complaints made by the Darjeeling Planters of the interference with their labour caused by the recruitment of their tea-garden coolies for police and other public purposes. During the Abor Expedition considerable numbers of transport coolies were, I believe, taken from the tea-gardens and much hardship to the local tea industry was thereby caused. I understand that the Bhutan Government, with the sanction of the Government of India, are about to lease out land for tea cultivation on their southern frontier east of the Sunkos river. If this is done, large numbers of Nepalese coolies from the Darjeeling and Dooars tea-gardens will undoubtedly be enticed over to the newly-opened area. This is a question I submit for the serious consideration of your Excellency's Government, as, unless something is done to protect their labour, recruited at great expense and difficulty, not only may the Darjeeling and Dooars tea industries be put to very great loss, but the revenue of these districts may also suffer by wholesale emigration of the nomad tribes who are at present opening out and cultivating the land at the foot of the hills in the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts. I therefore ask your Excellency's Government to take such steps as may be necessary to protect these important revenue-producing interests.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANARJI said :—

"My Lord, the budget which we have to consider to-day is a war budget, marked by contraction of revenue and curtailment of expenditure. The revenue was less by 21 lakhs of rupees than what we had anticipated, and the expenditure was less by 83 lakhs of rupees than what had been budgetted for. There has been a large falling-off under some of the principal heads of revenue, for instance, Land Revenue, Stamps, Excise, Registration and even Irrigation, the last being due, as has been pointed out by the Hon'ble the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, to the stoppage of traffic in jute over the canal area. My Lord, in consequence of the war, jute was very hard hit and it is the most important agricultural production of East and I may add of Northern Bengal, and it is not only the growers of jute who have had to suffer the most, but landlords, shop-keepers, money-lenders, I may say, all classes, all ranks had to participate in the pinch and the pressure due to the war. It was much to be wished that the authorities could see their way to finance the jute-growers at the time of crisis, but that was not done. My Lord, I have no idea as to the forecast of the jute produce for next year, but I am half afraid that the area of cultivation will be restricted and that rice will partly supplant jute. My Lord, but for the war, the Provincial Contract would have been revised and the new contract would have come into operation from the 1st of April. But that has not been done and it is impossible to do it owing to the war. After the war the Contract will be revised, and I do hope and trust that it will be so settled that Bengal will

be a self-contained province able to stand upon her own legs, pay her own way, meet her growing requirements without the aid of those Imperial doles which, as Sir William Duke pointed out, is so disastrous to the stability of our finance. We must work up to fiscal autonomy and from that to provincial autonomy which has been promised under the Despatch of the 25th August 1911.

My Lord, I have already observed that there has been a decrease of expenditure in respect of certain items, mostly under education, the department in which we, the educated community, feel the deepest interest. My Lord, the decrease has been Rs. 83 lakhs. I am talking of the year 1914-15. The Education Budget provided for an expenditure of Rs. 1,43,15,000, but we were only able to spend 83 lakhs. In other words, 61 lakhs of the Budget provision were not spent. The whole amount of the unspent expenditure comes up to 83 lakhs. Thus it will be seen that nearly two-thirds of the total decrease of expenditure is under the head of "Education," and one-third of the money budgetted for was not spent under the same head. I desire to call the Hon'ble the Director of Public Instruction's attention to some of the items in the Education Budget. I invite his attention to page 18 of the Budget. I find there—

	Rs.
Government schools, general revised estimates for 1914-15 ...	20,29,000
Budget estimate	11,37,000

or about a half.

I think that is a very big drop, and I should like to know from my Hon'ble friend how he proposes to satisfy the requirements under this head by a reduction so great. Then, again, under grants-in-aid—

	Rs.
Revised estimate	27,53,000
Budget	15,00,000

Is my Hon'ble friend going to cut down the grants-in-aid to one-half? Lastly, I desire to call his attention to the lump provision for hostels in Calcutta, budgeted for 1914-15, Rs. 8,70,000, revised estimate none. That means that nothing was spent under that head in 1914-15. I think I am right, my Lord, in that assumption. And in the budget I find 8 lakhs of rupees. That means that 8 lakhs are to be spent in 1915-16. Well, I should like to have some information in regard to that matter. Are the hostels, connected with some of the great private colleges, as they are called, going to be completed? For instance, there is to be a hostel for the Ripon College, one for the Metropolitan Institution and one for the City College. The plans, I think, are ready, the land has been acquired but nothing has yet been done, and I am quite sure my Hon'ble friend, the Director of Public Instruction, is at one with me in thinking that these hostels are a most important factor in the maintenance of that discipline which we should like to see enforced among our boys.

Then I come to the question of primary education. On page 53, I find that under the head of primary education—

	Rs.
Upper Primary schools	Nothing, and
Lower Primary schools	2,800

I presume that the grant for primary schools is really indicated in the grant made to the District Boards in support of local schools. I find that the Budget estimate for 1915-16 is fixed at Rs. 2,88,000. Now, my Lord

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from year to year, there has been a sensible increase under this important head. We have got the actuals of 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14 and 1914-15, five lakhs for 1911-12, Rs. 11,64,000 for 1912-13, Rs. 13,00,000 for 1913-14, and Rs. 2,88,000 for 1915-16. I do think that some sort of explanation is required in regard to this matter. I desire to express once again the earnest hope that my Hon'ble friend will soon be ready with his scheme for the spread of primary education. The demands of the public require to be satisfied in regard to this important matter. In regard to education and sanitation, being the two considerations, in which we, the educated community, feel the deepest interest, I have again to repeat the old complaint that the administrative machinery moves very slowly. You have got a Sanitary Board here presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, and on which there are some non-official Indian members, but we have no knowledge of its proceedings. They are involved in absolute secrecy. The Sanitary Board is not a diplomatic body in regard to which secrecy is necessary. Its proceedings ought to see the light of publicity. In their absence the general public seems to have a sort of notion that nothing has been done. My Lord, there is a persistent rumour that a scheme of water-supply is under preparation extending from Barnagore to Naihati. Will my Hon'ble friend in charge of the department take us into his confidence, open to us the gates of his prison-house, and let us know the secrets? I am quite sure if there is to be such a scheme that it will meet with the unstinted support and co-operation of the people of the 24-Parganas, who are prepared to submit to a little taxation for that purpose if they can get a good supply of water.

Passing from Education and Sanitation, I come to the Police. My Lord, I can only reiterate the old complaint which I made but last year that expenditure under this head is growing by leaps and bounds, but the improvement in the efficiency does not correspond with the increased expenditure. And I find that the European community shares the same feeling. The *Statesman*, I take it, is an exponent of European opinion, and in a recent article this is what the *Statesman* says:—"The Europeans have the same prejudice and never employ the Police if they can avoid the necessity of seeking their aid." There seems to be a sort of general distrust, and it is a matter of the first importance that it should be removed. My Hon'ble friend, the Maharaja of Burdwan, who is not here to-day in his place, suggested a commission to inquire into the matter. I do not know whether such a commission will lead to any useful and practical result, but I do know that what is wanted is a modicum of trust. The Police should trust us, and if they do so, I guarantee, my Lord, that we shall reciprocate their confidence with compound interest. That is human nature. But if you mistrust us, if you look upon us as so many suspects, we shall reciprocate the compliment in the same way. You will never command our trust unless you trust us—that is the secret of successful and beneficent administration. My Lord, with reference to the Police expenditure, I find that a sum of Rs. 15,000 has been budgetted for the re-organisation of the River Police. I am in entire sympathy with that measure, and I do hope that a portion of the money will be spent on steam-launches for patrolling the river Hughli both banks of which have been exposed to dacoities.

My Lord, I desire once again to repeat what was urged last time, viz., that the pay of the last grade of Munsifs should be increased. It is Rs. 200 now. There was a budget provision to the extent of Rs. 21,000 for raising their pay to Rs. 250, but nothing, I submit, has been done in the course of the year, and the provision has not been renewed. Now, my Lord, it seems to me to be very hard that when highly-paid members of the Indian Civil Service and of the Superior Police Service are allowed compensation allowance as a relief for block in promotion, that this deserving class of public servants should not get their just dues. My Lord, Government stand pledged to

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the amelioration of their position, and the pledge, should not long remain unredeemed.

My Lord, there is one item in the Budget—I need not quote it—in which a provision has been made for the repair of a ferry ghat at Baduria. I take it that the proceeds are appropriated by the Provincial Exchequer. Against that I record my emphatic protest. From time to time—in fact, it is a general part of the Government's policy—you are making advances to local bodies in order to enable them to carry out improvements, and now you take away local funds, you divert local resources from their legitimate purposes and make them a part of the provincial funds. Local funds belong to local bodies, and I protest against the policy that withdraws these funds from the local bodies and makes them part and parcel of provincial funds. I speak with some amount of warmth as I have practical experience of a thing of this kind in connection with the North Barrackpur Municipality. I am Chairman of the North Barrackpur Municipality, we have within its jurisdiction the Kanaidham Ferry Ghat. The ferry yields a annual revenue of Rs. 3,600, half of which goes to the Serampur Municipality and the other half is appropriated by the Provincial Government. We get nothing out of this arrangement, although we are compelled to repair the roads and the approaches to the Ferry. I think this is unfair.

Lastly, I desire to call your Lordship's attention to the attitude of the Indian public with regard to the publication of the report of the Administration Committee. I think I voice the unanimous opinion of my countrymen when I say that the publication of that report has been received with a sense of profound disapprobation. It has revived the memories of a controversy which we have resolved to bury in utter oblivion——"

The Hon'ble MR. CUMMING, interrupting, said :—

"My Lord, I rise to a point of order. My Lord, is not this point irrelevant to a discussion on the Budget?"

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"I confess I do not see any relevancy. Unless the Hon'ble Member can make his remarks relevant to some item in the Budget before us, he is out of order."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANARJI said :—

"My Lord, may I finish my remark with reference to this particular matter?"

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said :—

"Yes, but you must try to make it relevant."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANARJI said :—

"My Lord, I will try, and in two minutes' time I hope I shall finish. The Report has condemned upon what evidence I know not our system of secondary education which despite its defects has on the whole produced splendid results. It has passed unmerited reflections upon one of the greatest names in modern Bengal and in terms which have been resented by his followers, who are to be counted by thousands, and by his countrymen, by whom he is regarded as one of the most illustrious men of his age. I trust that when your Excellency's Government will proceed to record a resolution on this Report they will consult the public bodies upon the vital issues which it has raised.

Raja Hrishikesh Laha.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said:—

"YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The Budget for 1915-16 presents no remarkable feature as the hands of the Provincial Government have been tied by the instructions of the Government of India that the Provincial receipts should cover all expenditures leaving the balances intact. The closing balance for 1914-15 is Rs. 2,81,31,000, out of which Rs. 2,20,62,000 have been earmarked for Education, Sanitation, etc., which unhappily cannot be used for the purpose for which they are intended. There is a free balance of Rs. 20,47,000, which does not go far enough to meet the urgent requirements of the Province. There are, however, some new schemes which are proposed to be taken in hand, the most important of which are the increase in the reinforcement of the Presidency Police and the establishment of new police-stations in the mufassal. In the present circumstances of the country, when dacoities are rampant everywhere and life and property have become insecure, I should have been very glad if further provisions could have been made for increasing the present force of the Presidency Police, which falls far short of the requirements of the town. There appears to be a shortage in the number of constables, and it is desirable that Government should consider the question of strengthening the present force even by increasing the pay.

In the detailed remarks on the budget it will be observed that an estimate of Rs. 17,92,000 has been made for the recovery of Survey and Settlement charges, but owing to the general dislocation of trade caused by the war and a considerable fall in the price of jute and the partial failure of paddy crops in many parts of Bengal the position of both the zamindars and the cultivators has become anything but satisfactory. The former are doing their best to meet all the Government demands, but they have to do so at a considerable sacrifice, their collections being much below the normal. In the circumstances it would be considered a boon both by the zamindars and the cultivating classes if the Survey and Settlement operations are suspended for at least a year, that is, so long as the war lasts and things do not return to their normal condition. It appears from the Resolution published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 24th February, 1915, that over 3,500 square miles were surveyed in 1913 and over 3,600 square miles in 1914, and if we calculate the expenditure at the standard rate, namely, Rs. 1,000 per square mile (*see* The Bengal Administration Report of 1911-12), then the cost ranges between 35 and 36 lakhs of rupees a year, three-fourths of which have to be paid by the zamindars and the tenants. Moreover, the zamindars have to maintain a special staff to look after the Survey and Settlement operations, and the raiyats to attend personally at the sacrifice of their own business and to incur incidental costs for travelling and other matters, which come up to a large round sum. Their troubles do not end here; they have also to incur expenses for fighting out cases under sections 105 and 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act (Act VIII of 1885) after the final publication of the Record-of-Rights. Taking all these facts into consideration, their total yearly expenses would come to a round sum of about 50 lakhs, which they can ill afford to pay in such a hard time as this. I believe I have made out a good case for suspension, and I do not think it will affect the Government much if the recoveries are kept in abeyance for a year only, or so much of the Survey and Settlement operations, which are not expected to be finished before 1932 be suspended. I hope my suggestion will receive due consideration.

As regards Excise, I have to offer a few remarks. It will be noticed that duties and license-fees on country spirit and toddy and generally on other excisable articles have been considerably raised since 1913, no doubt with the laudable object of decreasing their consumption. The estimated receipts under this head for the current year have been placed at Rs. 1,60,00,000 as against the revised estimate of Rs. 1,55,00,000 of the last year and

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Rs. 1,53,88,578 of 1913. The treasury price of opium would be raised to Rs. 40 per seer and the duty on *ganja* from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20. Other means also, as abolition of considerable number of shops and restricted hours of sale, have been adopted with that view. But it appears from the speech of my Hon'ble friend Mr. Stephenson, while introducing the budget heads relating to the Excise Department, that the increase or decrease in the consumption of country spirit and *ganja* and other excisable articles depend more upon agricultural prosperity or otherwise than upon the restrictive measures adopted for temperance purposes. That being so, it would be obviously unjust to those consumers, especially the various hill-tribes who from their manners, habits and customs are addicted to country spirits, toddy, etc., which have become as it were a part of their necessaries of life, to continue the enhanced duties imposed on them with a view to reduce their consumption, but which have manifestly failed to achieve their end. Moreover, these people have such hankering after these intoxicating liquors that they would not feel the slightest scruple to drink, however high the duties may be raised, though their wives and children may go without food. The duties therefore should be so regulated, making allowance for human frailties, that their wives and children should not be deprived of their food."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, we meet to-day for our annual discussion of the Provincial Budget under extremely exceptional circumstances. While the crisis through which the Empire is passing has imposed on us a solemn duty to temper our remarks with prudence and moderation, yet I feel that the voice of criticism cannot be wholly hushed, if we are to discharge our duties not only to our community but also to your Excellency's Government. I therefore propose to offer a few remarks on the Budget allotments and the Government policy regarding the expenditure from Provincial Funds on matters affecting the education of Muhammadans in this Presidency.

My Lord, it is now two years almost to a day that I raised my voice in this Council as a protest against the policy of doling out fitful allotments in the Budget in furtherance of halting and half-hearted schemes for the advancement of Muhammadan education in Bengal. I tried to impress on your Excellency's Government that the minds of the Muhammadans had been seriously unsettled by the annulment of the Partition, and that Government was in honour bound to make adequate amends for the grievous wrong inflicted by that measure on a loyal and unsuspecting community. I pointed out that the least that your Excellency's Government could do was to continue the vigilant care which the Eastern Bengal officials used to bestow on schemes tending to further Muhammadan education, and to place such schemes in the forefront of all measures which your Excellency's Government thought fit to finance from Provincial Funds. As special cases, I emphasized the urgent necessity for Muhammadan boys of a well-equipped Arts College in Calcutta together with adequate hostel accommodation in all the education centres, and more particularly a hostel for college students in the vicinity of College Square in this city. These proposals have since then run the gauntlet of official criticism and public comment, and the voice of the community has all along been approvingly raised in their support at all the Muhammadan Educational Conferences in this Presidency. But, unfortunately, in spite of all our earnest efforts the lapse of full two years has not brought about any improvement in the situation, nor afforded the Muhammadan boys the least relief in their struggles to avail themselves of the benefits of English Education. I have not the least doubt that the history of the previous years will again repeat itself, and that this year also the stringent rules of admission into colleges, coupled with the utter absence of suitable or adequate hostel accommodation will mark the close of the career of hundreds of Muhammadan students all over the Presidency.

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My Lord, it was in April 1913 that the Government of India issued its well-known circular to Provincial Governments, emphasising the importance and the necessity of paying particular attention to the various problems affecting the education of the Muhammadan community. As a full and careful statement of the case for the Muhammadan community the document was admirable enough, but in its practical application it has remained a veritable dead letter. I cannot for a moment conceive how, when once the necessity for a certain measure is realised, Government should feel any difficulty in taking suitable steps to put their resolve into action. I am prepared to admit that the wheels of the Government machine are ponderously slow, but that is no reason why they should be so slow, as for all practical purposes, not to be moving at all. Let us take for instance the case of the Muhammadan Arts College and the hostel for Muhammadan students in College Square in this city. It was in 1913 that a notification was published in the *Calcutta Gazette* about the acquisition of a plot of land for the Arts College in Wellesley Square. But beyond that mere paper notification nothing has yet been done, and the ground is still lying in the same vacant condition with not a spadeful of sand having been turned during these two years. The officials concerned may console themselves that they have some mysteriously convincing explanation for all this delay, but the Muhammadan community feel convinced that the real cause for all this lethargy lies in the utter indifference with which the officials are wont to treat the claims of the Muhammadan community. In the case of the hostel in College Square, the officials have gone one better, for not one single step has yet been taken to indicate that the Government have the least intention to afford the Muhammadan students any relief in this matter.

My Lord, the cases of the Arts College or the hostel in College Square are not the solitary instances in which Muhammadan claims, even of a pressing character, have been conveniently brushed aside so as ultimately to pass out of consideration altogether. I can mention scores of instances to illustrate what I mean, but for paucity of time I will only quote two cases in point. Hon'ble Members are aware that when early in 1913 the question of hostel accommodation for Muhammadan students was forcibly pressed on the Government, we were assured that a sum of Rs. 91,000 had been set apart for the extension of the Baker and Elliott Hostels. Resolution after resolution was moved in this Council, and interpellation after interpellation was put to draw the pointed attention of Government to the urgency of hostel accommodation for Muhammadan students, and at the end of each discussion or answer, Government used to tell us that a sum of Rs. 91,000 had been set apart for the extension of the two hostels. I hope I will not cause any surprise in this Council were I to declare that the sum of Rs. 91,000 still exists in its integrity, that not a pice out of this amount has been thought fit to be spent and that not a brick has yet been added to either of the two institutions. The other case that I wanted to cite comes from Rajshahi. Soon after the partition, the Muhammadans of that town urged upon the Government the necessity for a Muhammadan hostel and asked for an allotment from Provincial Revenues. After some discussion and negotiation, it was settled that the Muhammadan community should supply the land and a portion of the cost of the building, and the Government would pay the balance of the cost. The Eastern Bengal Government never allowed the cases of Muhammadan hostels to be shelved on any account, and within a short time of its first inception, the hostel was completed and thrown open for the occupation of students. Then a very strange thing happened. The hostel was named "The Fuller Hostel" after Sir Bampfylde Fuller, and as if to be in keeping with Sir Bampfylde's unfinished reign, the authorities thought that the building should be left slightly incomplete. They accordingly allowed the floor of the dining-hall to remain kutcha. The community at once protested and the matter was referred to the Principal of the Rajshahi

College for report. Since then, although the Muhammadan community have sent up numerous representations and petitions during six full years, neither the Principal of the College nor the higher authorities have shown any desire within the last six years to do anything in the matter. I leave it to your Excellency's Government to consider what justification there can possibly be for neglecting for six years to repair the floor of a hall, only about 400 yards in area, especially when the matter itself is of some urgency and has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the authorities. Can indifference, I ask, go further than this?

My Lord, there remains for me to say a few words on the question of hostel accommodation for Muhammadan students of the University Law College. There are at present about two hundred of these students, and the only accommodation that exists for them in Calcutta is confined to a few precarious seats in a stuffy house at No. 2, Mirzapore Street. When it was decided to build a hostel for the Law students of the University College, the University contributed over 3 lakhs of rupees and the Government contributed an equal amount for the erection of a suitable building for the hostel. The result has been the five-storied building named the Hardinge Hostel situated by the side of the University Law College, with accommodation, on even the most liberal scale, for nearly two hundred students. Ever since the erection of the hostel, more than 10 per cent. of the seats remain unoccupied and yet no Muhammadan student is allowed to have a seat in the hostel. There can be no objection to have the hostel reserved for Hindu students, but the Muhammadan students have an equal claim on the University and Provincial Funds and it would be an act of bare justice to them to build for them, if not an equally gorgeous, at least an equally commodious hostel.

My Lord, I do not wish to multiply instances. If I have ventured to trouble this Council once again with the very same matters which I had dealt with in the discussion of the previous Budgets, I have done so from an overpowering sense of duty. It is always an unpleasant task to have to perform the part of a critic, still more unpleasant to have to dwell on the very same theme year after year. But the responsibilities of office must be faced, and the very seat I occupy in this Council can only be justified by my readiness to place the views of my country and community truly and faithfully before your Excellency's Government. I have never been an alarmist at any time of my life, and I represent a community whose loyalty has always been above comment or cavil. It should therefore be a matter for some consideration by your Excellency's Government that to-day, while approaching the close of my term in this Council, I feel compelled to record my deliberate opinion that Muhammadan interests have not been receiving due and adequate consideration at the hands of Government. The annulment of the Partition gave a rude shock to Moslem feelings and fitful efforts were for some time made by officials to conciliate Muhammadan opinion. The result was the Dacca University—a doubtful boon, for which we are still making provisions in the Budget. This is neither the place nor the occasion to dwell on the various other causes which have since convulsed our community, but it is enough that the accumulated result of all this fortuitous concourse of circumstances has been to leave the minds of my community in a disturbed state. On the top of all this came the repeated disappointments of my community in securing even the scantiest recognition from Government in furtherance of practical schemes for the development of Muhammadan education.

My Lord, I have just been supplied with answers to an interpellation of mine which shew the total expenditure on hostels for the last three years, with separate figures for sums spent on Muhammadan hostels. I am told that in 1912-13 the total expenditure was about five and a half lakhs, Muhammadan hostels accounting for Rs. 58 thousand; in 1913-14 the

total expenditure was about five lakhs, Muhammadan hostels 65 thousand; and 1914-15 the total was eight lakhs of which only about Rs. 86 thousand had been spent on Muhammadan Hostels. Comment on these figures seems unnecessary. I will perhaps be told that a committee for advising on Muhammadan education has been appointed and been sitting and Government are awaiting their report before taking any steps in matters which may possibly form the subject of discussion in the committee. But the committee was appointed only late last year and even before that Government had not given any indications that they had been making the problems of Muhammadan education a matter of much concern. Besides, the case for a Muhammadan Arts college or a hostel in College Square has always been above controversy, and one at least of these schemes could have been taken up without prejudice to the deliberations of the committee. But Government preferred to procrastinate even in matters of such grave moment, with the result that the war has now broken out and is putting such a strain on the resources of the Empire that your Excellency had to declare at the Madrassah the other day that these schemes on which we had so much set our heart must be indefinitely postponed. It will be after all, as has always been in the past, that the Muhammadan community will suffer.

My Lord, I feel bound to tell your Excellency's Government that the popular impression is that you look upon the Muhammadan community as a negligible quantity and always try to ignore it in your administrative calculations. Recent events have convinced me that the popular estimate of the real attitude of Government towards our community is far from being incorrect. I do not mind telling my official friends in this Council that the one great weakness in the British character is its readiness to yield to those who shout the loudest and to ignore those who confide in the sense of justice and equity and the sturdy conscience of the British race. Herein lies the real explanation of the Government attitude towards the Muhammadan community. We are being ignored, because we have not yet made our existence felt. Else, how is it I ask, that even the urgent needs of our community are being subordinated to numerous other matters about which expenditure had to be incurred in the teeth of controversy? How is it that lakhs are being spent in such doubtful schemes as the College in Hastings House, while the Muhammadan Arts College is being slowly consigned to the limbo of oblivion. How is it that thousands of rupees are forthcoming for the acquisition of Darga lands at Rajshahi in the teeth of the most violent opposition by the Muhammadan community, while the repair of the floor of the dining hall in Fuller Hostel has been held back for over six years, although the cost would not have been more than a few hundred rupees? My Lord, the annulment of the Partition has itself left a wound which even time may not heal, but there have been after griefs which have affected us more deeply and will perhaps leave scars which nothing can efface from the minds of the community.

My Lord, I wish it to be distinctly understood that, in all my comments on Government policy, I do not wish to reflect on the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell or his methods of administration of the Education Department. On the contrary, the entire community fully appreciates the zeal and energy with which he has approached many a question affecting Muhammadan education, and I cannot personally withhold my tribute of grateful thanks to him and his worthy assistant Mr. Taylor, for all that they have done for the spread of Muhammadan education in Bengal. If our community has any grievances it is certainly not owing to the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell or to Mr. Taylor that things are unsatisfactory, and it is only due to them that I should publicly acknowledge their services on behalf of our community."

Dr. Sarbadhikari.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

'MY LORD,

A notable feature of the Bengal Budget has for some time been the development under the heading Education. When I joined the Council in 1908, I congratulated the Council and the Government upon the rise of our educational outlay from 26 lakhs in 1902-03 to 42½ lakhs in the revised estimate for 1908. Taking local contributions into account the figure then stood at 61 lakhs. The Province then consisted of Bengal as it now is and Bihar and Orissa. The figure stood at over 61 lakhs in 1911, leaving out of consideration, I believe, local contributions. It rose to over 73 lakhs in 1912, to over 81 lakhs in 1913, to over 85 lakhs in 1914, and this year we have the striking figure of a crore, five lakhs and 62 thousand not to speak of the much higher figure that was ultimately reduced as shown in page 18 of the Budget. This does not take into account, if I gather aright, local contributions and, if my belief be correct, the advance from 42 lakhs in 1908 to this year's figure of near upon a crore and six lakhs is indeed a matter of congratulation. I do not believe in money being spent on ill-matured schemes for the sake of spending. Fully sharing the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji's regret that all that was budgeted for last year could not be spent in the absence of matured and accepted working schemes, one must admit that the figure of actuals last year would appear to be all the more striking when one considers that Bihar and Orissa, under a separate Government, are separately provided for and the present figure is for Bengal proper alone. Bengal can therefore little complain that the Government have been unmindful of its educational requirements. Our requirements are no doubt larger and will be much larger in the near future. When the clouds roll by and the unspent balance that this year cannot be touched is once more available under more favourable auspices, we hope to be in a better position. The figures of this lump expenditure are given under suitable headings at page 18 of the Budget, and though an appreciable amount of this sum still continues to be employed for purposes that an ascetic educationist will hardly admit to be strictly educational, I must acknowledge that the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell has so far adhered to the pledge given by his predecessor that inspection charges which had attained what the department considered as the maximum should no further be increased. For this year these charges are actually less than the figures of 1911, and the direction charges are less than the figures of 1911 and 1914. It would be foolish to underestimate the value of direction and inspection in the field of education, but one naturally likes to see proportionably much more spent on the inspectable commodity than on inspection. More schools and colleges, better schools and colleges, more and better paid teachers and professors are a greater desiderata than expanded inspection and direction, and for a time admittedly there was an undue tendency towards the abnormal growth of inspection and direction charges which a timely and strong protest in this Council helped in curtailing.

Figures under the heading "University" are less than those of 1912-13-14, though the requirements are considerably in advance, and those interested in University education under altered conditions must have an anxious time of it till better provisions for increasing requirements can be made. The expenditure in Government colleges again is not much in advance of the last year's figures, and there are reasons to apprehend that unless the current year's figure of 9 lakhs and 12 thousand can by readjustment be appreciably increased, it would not be possible for many of the Government colleges to have their fair share of much-and long-needed improvements.

I should like to associate myself thoroughly with Hon'ble Moulvi Faz-ul-Haq in his appeal for a college and a hostel for Muhammadans. I have consistenly advocated generous expenditure on Muhammadan education ever

Dr. Sarbadhikari.

since I have been on the Council and I cannot say that nearly enough has been done in this direction. Regarding my friend's complaints about Muhammadan law students, all that we can say is that all the law students in the University Law College whether Hindoos or Muhammadans can never be adequately provided for. The Law College students number over 2,000 of whom only 150 can be lodged in the Hardinge Hostel and a few more in ordinary messes. Most of them will have to be in "stuffy messes" for a long time and even when hostels for all come, it is to be hoped that the hostels will be fairly in keeping with the conditions under which our average students live. I do not believe in "gorgeous" hostels. And it is doubtful whether we can ever maintain hostels even in an unsatisfactory way for all who require them. But I do recognise the urgent need of a Musalman non-collegiate hostel in the neighbourhood of College Square for students of various colleges about it. I hope one will soon come. I would welcome a Carmichael Hostel where our Muhammadan students can be located. In the meantime we in the University shall try to see how present arrangements can be improved.

It is keenly felt in many quarters that our colleges should have their dues share of M.A. teaching, so that the University may be relieved of much that it has to do in this direction under existing conditions. Though public attention has been called pointedly to this matter several times during the past few months, there seems to be little tendency on the part of the authorities to move in the direction indicated. So far it is the Presidency College and the Dacca College among the Government colleges that take any share in M.A. teaching, and I am glad to say that during the past few months their field of work in this direction has to a certain extent been enlarged. Both these colleges get all the students that they can or care to accommodate. The Gauhati College, thanks to Sir Archdale Earle's enlightened policy, has just begun taking some share, and one private college, the Scottish Churches College, also takes some share. Judged by results, undergraduate and graduate teaching also in the Government colleges require considerable general strengthening, and the pay and prospects of our professors in the Subordinate Educational Service require anxious and careful handling as early as possible. I shall not now refer to the various questions in this connection that I have raised in the Council from time to time, for we have been assured that they are under the consideration of your Excellency's Government and nothing can be done for the present. But there is one aspect of their case, to which I may be permitted to make a passing reference. Under the system—if it be one the merits of which I have not been able to clearly understand—a Science professor, who is a professor in one college, by being transferred to another, becomes immediately either a Lecturer or Demonstrator, as the case may be, or even an assistant to other professors, and some are supposed to be glorified bottle-washers. A person so transferred is, however, a Lecturer or a Professor to all intents and purposes and in many cases as good a Lecturer or Professor as any. But he is allowed no adequately responsible or recognized place in the college staff. And this state of things leads to too much heart-burning, and makes for inefficiency. Without much investment of money a state of peace and progress may be ensured by reasonable readjustment of ideas.

The Syndicate of the University has recently appointed a College Committee and a School Committee to consider what progress has been recently achieved and what remains to be done. These committees are still at work; but from materials that have come in so far as well as from annual inspection reports one cannot help being struck with the improvement that has been achieved with the limited resources of these institutions, and the whole question is one of money if further improvement is to be attained. While we are waiting for our systems and policies, and hanging up our balances till for some reason or another they cease to be available, the institutions concerned must considerably suffer if not altogether starve.

Dr. Sarbadhikari.

I welcome the Hastings House School Scheme, though much has been said against it outside this Council and just now in the Council. It is neither edifying nor reassuring that Government of India grants, that are fairly generous should not be spent because of want of matured schemes. Those who know and appreciate the wants cannot take long to mature working schemes though possibly they may not be the last words on the subject. In the domains of education the last words will not long be said, if ever. If the Hastings House School comes early, and does its work well, it will enable us to see what a model school according to advanced ideas would be like, what it will cost and what its possibilities are and how far other schools can be brought into a line without like resources. The Hindu School and the Hare School, in which many of us used to take and still take much interest, are, according, to some, anything but model schools, for which reason, if for no other the lessons of the Hastings School project will be awaited with interest, nay, anxiety. The University is insisting on higher school ideals wherever possible, and 17 schools are already under notice of disaffiliation. It must be admitted that if the rules were vigorously and strictly enforced, many more would have to come under notice immediately ; but popular educational demand cannot be met in that way, and in some places even indifferent schools would be better than no school at all.

Our Divisional and Additional Inspectors and their Deputies and Assistants, whom I take this opportunity of publicly thanking for the great service that they do to the University in this behalf, bring to light facts that make us extremely sad that means of improvements should be lacking so much. I am glad, as I am sure the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell will be, that they do not hesitate to bring to notice defects of the Government schools, which, in some instances, take quite as long, if not longer, to rectify as some private schools.

I now turn to a more helpful and hopeful feature of the Educational Budget, and refer with gratitude to the Hostel Grants of 10 lakhs of rupees that His Excellency the Chancellor was pleased to announce at the Town Hall Convocation of the University. I hope now our colleges, that have long been waiting for their hostels, will have appreciable assistance. Some years ago Sir Edward Baker was pleased to appoint a committee, of which I happened to be a member, to draw up a scheme for providing our private colleges with hostels, and the Hon'ble Mr. Küchler and myself went all over the town, inspected *bastis*, framed schemes, drew up estimates with the Hon'ble Mr. Slacke, as our President, and we ended in doing nothing. That was many years ago. Our idea was, and my idea still is, to take up some of the insanitary back *bastis*, which would be comparatively inexpensive to acquire, fairly close to the colleges, and build up a system of hostels that would be the beginning of real corporate University life in Calcutta. I forget the exact amount that was supposed to be at our disposal then, and I believe it was something like 5 or 6 lakhs. Then came the grants mentioned at page 8 of the budget—8 lakhs and 70 thousand as it is shown there—but which I believed was 10 lakhs. The City College, the Ripon College, the Metropolitan College, the Bangabasi College, and I forget what other colleges, were invited to participate. Some moved in the matter in right earnest and made an appreciable advance, even to the extent of acquiring land. The University was not consulted in the matter and does not know how matters exactly stand. But some of the colleges complain that, though their schemes have been ready and they could begin work at once, they could not and cannot do so for want of the assistance that they expected. I have tried to get information as to what actual sum is included in the unspent balance originally earmarked for hostel purposes, and whether it be 8 lakhs 70 thousand or 10 lakhs and more, taking into account the grant made earlier, we take it all, this would be available for the same purposes, when the present

troubles pass away and when we are free to touch the balance. Including this year's grant of 10 lakhs near upon 25 lakhs should be to the credit of Calcutta hostels.

Connected with this aspect of student life, I would like to refer to the urgent need of a student infirmary in Calcutta—a need that has been pressed very much upon us in connection with the recent outbreak of small-pox epidemic in Calcutta.

We are thankful that substantial provision has been made for the Belgachia Hospital, and means will soon be found for providing Bengal with a second affiliated Medical Institution, and turning out more highly qualified doctors than we are able at present to do. Establishment of the State Faculty of Medicine, to which reference has been made in the Budget will help in bringing into existence an intermediate class of medical practitioners, who are likely to be very useful to the country. This year Hon'ble Members who did not want free advertisement for their pet schemes of the kind alluded to by the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson in connection with the Hon'ble Raj Radha Charan Pal Bahadur's sporting Budget resolutions studiously refrained from troubling the Council with needless motions. One resolution, however, of which notice had been given by an Hon'ble Member, but which was disallowed on account of the non-compliance with the rules, touched a matter of vital importance to the Provincial Judicial Service. It was in connection with the question of granting an increment of Rs. 50 per month to the lowest grade of Munsifs, 35 in number, as has been done in the case of the Provincial Executive Service. The total expenditure would be Rs. 21,000. The Hon'ble Sir William Duke, in the course of the Budget debate on the 4th April last, spoke as follows on this subject :—

"Satisfaction has been expressed that provision has been made for raising the pay of the lowest grade of Munsifs. I would ask members to adopt an attitude of expectation on this subject. I myself have always contemplated raising the pay of the lowest grade of Munsifs since the time when the Government decided to do it in the case of the Executive Service, and that was carried through about three years ago. We thought that probably what was fair for one service would be fair to the other, and in fact, so far as the Munsifs are recruited rather older, they have an additional claim."

As no effect had, however, been given to the scheme yet, I asked a question on the subject in the Council on the 20th January last. Replying to this question, the Hon'ble Mr. Cumming said :—

"It is not possible to state from what date the abolition of the last grade of Munsifs will take place. Government regret that they are not prepared to make recommendations at the present time for the immediate increase of expenditure which the proposal would involve and are awaiting the report of the Royal Commission on the Public Services before taking further action in the matter."

I trust that Government will soon do something to ameliorate the condition of this class of well-deserving public servants.

In the interest of the Service the long deferred act of justice to which I allude should not be further withheld.

Those of us, who had often occasion of drawing the attention of the Council and the Government to the pitious conditions of some parts of the country owing to the Damodar floods, will have the satisfaction of knowing that steps are to be taken for grappling with the question in right earnest. Budget allotment for this first step is, therefore, welcome, and we thank Your Excellency and Your Excellency's Government for this earnest.

The recent publication of the correspondence with local Governments on the subject of Excise Administration in India suggests many matters of

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interest that this Council might be asked to consider. The Temperance Party have decided to take up the suggestion of His Excellency the Viceroy re-echoed by the Secretary of State for India and seek to arouse among the people themselves definite movements towards the practice of total abstinence from both drink and drugs. At the same time they look for the support promised by the Administration in the statement of His Excellency that the Administration is chiefly concerned with the reduction of actual consumption so minimising temptation to those who do not drink, and discouraging excess among those who do.

We should also be glad to learn whether the Government of Bengal are prepared to act upon any of the recommendations which the Secretary of State for India has urged might be introduced in the interests of Temperance Reform. Among these special mention should be made of an experiment in certain areas, Calcutta for example, of a system of adequate fixed fees instead of the system of auctioning licenses, which is still regarded by Temperance workers as quite as unsatisfactory in controlling consumption as was the outstill system so rapidly being abolished. We have powerful allies now in the War Offices of Great Britain, France and Russia and even in the British Exchequer. Temperance men will no longer hesitate to press for fiscal sacrifices in the interest of Temperance. And to crown all our generous King-Emperor, who is ever to the fore and the first in all good causes has given a noble lead to the world that will prove itself a regenerative force of undreamt of power. The Archbishop of Canterbury has whole-heartedly taken up the cause and these notable exertions there will find adequate response in India as all friends of Temperance and good Government fervently wish and pray.

It would at this juncture be useful and interesting to know if the Government of Bengal is prepared to act according to the suggestion of the Marquess of Crewe that the syllabus of lessons on Temperance which received the support of the British Medical Association and was issued by the Board of Education in 1909 might be adapted for use of schools in India and that at least two or three lessons a year should be based upon it. I would request that this most practical and reasonable suggestion might be forwarded to the department of my hon'ble friend, the Member for Education, for sympathetic consideration and action.

The Secretary of State for India further suggests that the functions of Advisory Committees might not be limited merely to questions of the number or locations of shops but be enlarged "to include the consideration of the methods of trading, the hours of sale, and generally as to abuses and irregularities." And in connection with this I would urge Your Excellency's special attention to the suggestion of the same high authority that it might be within the recognised sphere of Advisory Committees and Licensing Boards "to call attention to special cases and localities in town or country in which it might seem desirable, and likely to be in consonance with the wishes of the inhabitants, that a ward or special area should be kept altogether immune from the sale of intoxicants."

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN said :—

"My Lord,

I beg to congratulate your Excellency's Government on the presentation of a successful budget for the year 1915-16. It is a matter of great felicitation to us to know that the war in Europe has not succeeded in influencing the budget to as much extent as was apprehended before. Our heartfelt thanks are specially due to all heads of departments for observing strict economy in their ordinary expenditure last year and raising thereby the actual free balance to 28½ lakhs of rupees after earmarking an additional 5 lakhs of

rupees for a grant under certain conditions to the Belgachia Hospital, although in the beginning of the year it was estimated to be only 26 lakhs.

Coming to the expenditure side of the Budget we are glad to find that the Government, even in this year of financial difficulties, have provided 1½ lakhs of rupees for the reorganisation of the Excise Department. It is from excise that the Government receive the maximum of profit with the minimum of expenditure, and none can grudge an additional expenditure under this head for the more efficient working of the department.

Registration.

2. Coming to the head Registration, it is to be noticed that in 1914-15 Rs. 11,99,000 were provided, but in the revised estimate it was reduced to Rs. 11,51,000 and it has further been reduced to Rs. 11,23,000 in the coming year's budget. It is a matter of regret that, although there was a talk of revision of establishment of this department for some years past, it has not as yet been carried into effect: even this year's budget has not provided for it. In my opinion some more money should have been provided under this head for the revision of the establishment of this department this year, as has been done in the Excise Department.

Jails.

3. Coming to the head Jails, I notice with apprehension the provision of Rs. 21,95,000 in place of Rs. 23,78,000. The decrease is attributed to small provision for dietary charges and purchase of raw material as compared with the figures of the revised estimate. Among all the expenses, dietary charges of the prisoners should be the last that should be touched when economy is to be effected. I would urge upon your Excellency's Government to look to this item of expenditure and increase it, if possible, in the interest of humanity, instead of reducing it.

Police.

4. It has now become a general complaint that the district executive force is not enough to cope with the increasing work of the district police. I would therefore humbly request your Excellency's Government to see if it is not practicable to increase the number of the police force, at least temporarily, to meet the general situation of the Presidency, created by the disorganisation of trade and partial failure of crops last year.

Education.

5. From the statement of expenditure under the head Education it appears that under the sub-head "Expenditure of recurring grant," Rs. 25,20,000 were provided in last year's budget and in the revised estimate the whole amount was omitted. But in the budget for the year 1915-16 again Rs. 13,20,000 have been provided for the expenditure. I do not know why the Education Department could not expend a farthing even out of Rs. 25,20,000, in the first few months of the year, as economy has been thought of practically from the middle of the year only. I would ask the Hon'ble Member in charge to take special care of this item of expenditure and to see that regular schemes come forward in proper time so that money may not lapse by the end of the year, as the country is clamouring for liberal expenditure for its educational progress.

The Muhammadan public has learnt with great regret that the materialisation of the scheme for the establishment of an Arts College for Muhammadan boys in Calcutta in the centre of Muhammadan population will be delayed for want of funds. The Educational Budget for the coming year

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provides for the expenditure of Rs. 95,62,000, of which more than Rs. 30,00,000 are in the discretion of the Education Department. If the Department likes to establish the college, it can very easily do so, out of these discretionary amounts without interfering in any way with their recurring and permanent expenditure. I hope the Department will fulfil the scheme this year and relieve the Muhammadan public from anxiety.

Superannuation.

6. The charges under this head are rising year after year, and the estimate for 1915-16 provides for an additional amount of about 2 lakhs of rupees under this head. This I understand is for commutation of pensions. While discussing the last year's budget I pointed out some gross injustice to the old Sub-Registrars whose pensionable services are counted from the date of the reorganisation of the department a few years ago, and not from the date of their actual entry into the service. In reply, the Hon'ble Member in charge was pleased to say that their case is under the consideration of the Royal Commission. Since then a year has passed and the public have not yet been informed of the decision of the Royal Commission. In the meantime the old people are retiring, but unfortunately their cases are governed by the existing pension rules. I would therefore urge upon Your Excellency's Government to see if some relief cannot be given to those gentlemen who are retiring at present. Whatever be the ultimate decision of the Royal Commission, I beg to impress upon Your Excellency's Government the hardships and sufferings of these old people, and to ask Your Excellency to be a little merciful towards them. It is sometimes pointed out that these old Sub-Registrars formerly retired without any pensions whatsoever. But I beg to say in reply that there was previously no age-limit for retiring and the old Sub-Registrars were allowed to work as many years as they liked even without any transfer whatsoever.

Civil Works in charge of Public Works Department.

7. I beg to thank Your Excellency's Government heartily for expending a good amount for the improvement of the Dooars Roads. I have been impressing upon Your Excellency's Government for the last two years that the two systems of roads—one leading to Jalpaiguri and the other to Alipur—should be linked together for the improvement of inter-district communication. I personally explained this to the Hon'ble Mr. Green and pointed out to him that it was very easy to do so by extending the Dalgaon-Lankapara Road up to the edge of the river Tursha and the Rajabhatkhawa-Joygaon Road to the other bank of the river and keeping a good ferry across the river till the Public Works Department would think it opportune for bridging it. The cost in doing so will I believe be very small indeed, and I hope the Government would kindly accept this suggestion."

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN said :—

"MY LORD,

It is indeed a matter for sincere congratulation to our Government that in spite of the serious dislocation of business caused by the general conflagration of the war, our financial condition has not been as depressing and discouraging as was apprehended. Nobody could expect this year a prosperity budget. The serious drain caused by the war has always been regarded as an important factor to reckon with in framing the Budget. The fall of revenue under the several heads has been sufficiently accounted for by the Hon'ble Members in charge of the departments. Looking to the receipt side of the financial statement, I find one item affecting more particularly the people of Eastern Bengal, that calls for some comment. Evidently

Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.

both the Imperial and Provincial Governments are not going to stay their hands with regard to the recovery of Survey and Settlement charges. We have our 'Fat' years, and we have our 'Lean' years, and the present unfortunately has been one of the leanest years for Eastern Bengal. The extraordinary drop in the price of jute on account of the war, and the partial failure of rice crop in some of the districts have caused the direst distress to the people. The pinch is being felt by all classes of people, the agriculturists as well as the landholder. The demand of Survey and Settlement charges in this year of distress is not likely to be met by the people of these hapless districts without the greatest difficulty. I implore your Excellency's Government and the Imperial Government to arrange the Budget in such a manner that the recovery of these charges may be suspended for this year. Eighteen lakhs is really a drop in the huge Indian Ocean of revenues, and if the fall of revenue from other sources can be tolerated, it won't at all be difficult to account for these eighteen lakhs between your Excellency's Government and the Imperial Government. In case, however, your Excellency's Government be not prepared to accept my suggestion in full, I earnestly pray that Government may be pleased to issue such general instructions to the superior officers charged with the actual realisation of the Survey and Settlement charges as may enable them to consider cases of hardship on their own merits and order instalments in payment of the charges according to their discretion.

I am glad to note here that henceforth agriculture is to be entered in the Budget as a separate head. This is as it should be, because our country is mainly agricultural and about 70 per cent. of the population depends for their livelihood on agriculture and agricultural pursuits. The work of the department is still in its initial stage, but the field is vast and extensive. In my humble opinion, whenever a successful result is obtained from any experiment conducted at demonstration farms in district headquarters, it should be the endeavour of the department to popularise it amongst the actual cultivators in the interior of the country because very few of them come to town to learn these things as they are generally poor, illiterate, ignorant and unenterprising. My Lord, I may take the case of rice crop for example. If any successful experiment is obtained, it should at once be tried in a Khas Mahal in the south of the Bakarganj district, so that it may be an object-lesson and an eye-opener to the raiyats living there, and from them it would be learnt easily by their friends and relations who live near by the Mahal. This is one of the ways how a successful experiment can be made popular. Unless this course is taken at once and immediately and is always kept in view and successfully pushed on gradually but persistently, no benefit can be gained from the expenditure incurred in connection with the successful experiments at demonstration farms and research institutes. On the 'Expenditure side,' the increase under head 'Law and Justice' calls for certain remarks. The increase is said to be chiefly due to larger payments of pleaders' fees in connection with the several political cases. Everybody in this Council is anxious to stamp out anarchism from the land and bringing the offenders to speedy justice is no doubt one of the potent means for strangling anarchism to death. But there is no reason why the Government should be so lavish in expenditure in engaging counsel and pleaders at enormous fees for conducting these political cases. It is said and, I believe, said with great deal of justice and truth that even very ordinary lawyers, engaged by Government, have made fabulous incomes in connection with these political cases. Why should the Government pay more than what such lawyers can ordinarily earn? The best legal help can be secured at less than half the cost. Everybody expects that Government should take care to spend the tax-payers' money with some regard to economy. Litigation is a curse to the people of this country, and the Government is indeed setting a very bad example by such lavish expenditure.

Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

MY LORD, I would be wanting in my duty as a member of this Council were I to omit to convey our grateful thanks to His Excellency the Viceroy for his recent announcement about a grant of 10 lakhs for the erection of hostels for students. I have no doubt that this liberal grant will give a great impetus to the cause of education and I hope the claims of Muhammadan community will not be overlooked by Your Excellency's Government.

My Lord, I cannot conclude these few remarks of mine on the Budget without a few words on the urgent need of a hostel for Muhammadan students in Calcutta. I know that Government has been contemplating an extension of the Elliot and Baker Hostels, and this no doubt will bring the students some relief. But the real and crying want is a hostel in or near College Square which will enable our young men to live under the beneficial influences of all the various educational institutions in that neighbourhood.

I sincerely hope and trust that your Excellency's Government will take steps to remove this long-felt grievance of our students and thus earn the lasting gratitude of the entire Muhammadan community in this Presidency."

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY said :—

"MY LORD,

The position of the Budget under review can be ascertained by a glance at page 5 of the Budget. It appears that under the orders of the Government of India the Budget has been prepared on the basis that all the charges are covered by the Provincial receipts and regrant of all the unexpended balances of the Imperial grants for Education, Sanitation, Police and discretionary grants have not been provided for. In view of the financial situation caused by the outbreak of war in Europe it is satisfactory to note that no new taxation has been imposed and none of the existing taxes has been materially enhanced with the exception of the contemplated increase of the Treasury price of opium to Rs. 40 per seer and the duty on Ganja from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20. This will affect a small minority of the population but the total revenue under these items has been estimated at a much smaller figure than that of the current year owing to an anticipated decrease in consumption. Taking all these into consideration the Government are to be congratulated on the successful framing of the Budget.

Sanitation.—The decision of the Government to make over the whole of the Public Works cess to the District Boards has met with universal approval and the result has been highly satisfactory as it has enabled the District Boards to assist private parties in the re-excavation of several existing tanks. The villagers, hitherto partly indifferent and partly helpless owing to want of funds, are now coming forward to avail themselves of this concession and it is confidently expected that in the near future a crying necessity and a long-felt want will be met and removed by this means. The scheme which I suggested in my speech on the Budget last year will, I venture to hope, be given a trial and, if inaugurated, will, I am sure, tend to stimulate wealthier co-sharers of tanks to undertake their re-excavation. No such permanent fund as mentioned above, however, is at the disposal of the Municipalities and their demand for the same to meet the requirements of sanitation and water-supply is as urgent as it is indispensable. Schemes prepared take a long time to mature with the result that the amounts budgeted very often lapse. The provision of Rs. 60,000 for waterworks to the Chandpur Municipality will, it is hoped, be utilised and the works pushed through.

Babu Upendra Lal Ray.

Fisheries.—My Lord, very little is known of the progress done by the Fishery Department ; and at page 20 a sum of Rs. 2,000 has been provided for each of the following subjects, *viz.* :—

(1) Carp culture by the Fishery Department,

(2) Experimental culture in Sundarbans Fisheries and

(3) Fishery yarn.

It is doubtful if this is enough for the requirements and also if these amounts are included in the sum of Rs. 57,000 mentioned at page 60. In any case, more financial aid is necessary for improving and promoting the growth of fishes in this Presidency.

Education.—This very important subject has, I am glad to observe, not missed the attention of the Government, but one thing that strikes us, and is a subject of common talk, is that more money is spent for inspection than is certainly necessary. The result is curtailment of expenditure on other more important heads, as for example, provision of teaching staff, affiliation and opening up of new schools and colleges. In the Chittagong Division only two colleges exist at present and even these two have not affiliation in all the important subjects. Hopes have from time to time been held out for improvement of the status of these colleges but their fulfilment is as indefinite as before. Technical and Industrial Education deserves more attention than it appears to have received.

Courts of Law.—My Lord, the prospect of regrading and increasing the pay of the Lowest Grade of Munsifs, for which provision was made in the last budget, is still unrealised and is a case of hope deferred. The amounts sanctioned during the current year do not find their respective places in the budget under discussion and this will tend to depress the overworked members of this branch of the Judicial service who have been anxiously looking forward for realization of their cherished hopes.

General Administration.—The increase in the number of political cases has necessitated the provision of larger expenditure from year to year. I venture to make one suggestion on this subject. The several infructuous prosecutions appear to have been the outcome of perfunctory investigations and misspent energy. The appointment of an independent Legal Advisory Board to consider and advise on all such prosecutions before embarking on the same would, I am sure, reduce the number of abortive prosecutions involving colossal expenditure of public money. Experience has taught us even in the small Municipality of Chittagong that the appointment of such Advisory Boards has been a great success and the means of saving a good deal of public money and good many people from harassment.

Communications.—My Lord, my resolution at the sitting of the Council at Dacca about improvement of communication by the opening up of new lines of railway and also the development of the Port of Chittagong, which Your Excellency's Government had the goodness to adopt, appears to have been lost sight of in the framing of the Budget and in this respect also I wish to remind Your Excellency that the lapse of the provision of Rs. 75,000 for a Grab Dredger for the Port of Chittagong which has not been sanctioned has caused great disappointment in the minds of the Commissioners of that Port, who, in addition to this modest scheme, have formulated some bigger undertakings for the training and conservancy of the Karnafuli river as well as for the construction of some jetties for the coasting trade of the port. That the demands of this port should be met admits of no doubt and not only the Provincial but the Imperial Government also have realized its importance and offered assistance for the better equipment of the port. It is an accepted theory that in matters of this nature money ought to be spent liberally in the beginning before the schemes can become reproductive.

Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.

Jails.—I venture to remind Your Excellency's Government of the desire to have separate cooking arrangements for Hindu and other convicts in all the jails of this Presidency. It is not known whether any provision has been made in the budget in this direction in view of the reply given to my question on this subject and I hope the matter will receive due consideration and effect will be given to the remodelling of the cooking sheds in the various jails on these lines where such separate arrangement does not exist.

Grand Trunk Canal.—I am glad to observe that there has been an important modification of the Grand Trunk Canal project. The original alignment of Mr. O. C. Lees received the support of all the public bodies with the exception of the Bengal Mahajan Sabha which suggested a shorter, less expensive and more convenient alignment with the outfall at Chitpur. Babu Bidhu Bhusan Chatterjee, the representative of the Sabha, in giving evidence before the Port Facilities Inquiry Committee pointed out that in the event of the suggestion of the Sabha being accepted the necessity of taking the inland canal right across the Bidyadhari river would be obviated. In my budget speech last year I pointed out the advantages of the new scheme as suggested by the Bengal Mahajan Sabha. It is gratifying to note that the Government have been pleased to modify the original scheme on the lines suggested."

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI said :—

"MY LORD,

I congratulate your Excellency's Government and the Imperial Government on the gratifying fact that no additional tax has been imposed, although by the end of the financial year India will have spent about seven millions sterling in meeting her share of the cost of the Indian Expeditionary Force. People everywhere expected some sort of war tax and they have been agreeably surprised to find that their rulers have managed to tide over the crisis with the ordinary means at their disposal and they are very grateful for it.

Although we know that, in the time of stress that we are passing through, strict economy has to be practised in every department, yet I cannot help complaining of the absence of one small item in the Budget under discussion which was provided in the Budget of 1914-15.

My Lord, I refer to the provision of Rs. 21,000 in last year's Budget to raise the pay of the last grade of munsifs from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250. Some years ago the pay of the last grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors was raised to Rs. 250, and from that time the munsifs have been expecting, and justly expecting, that the pay of their last grade too would, in no time, be similarly increased. My Lord, the members of the Provincial Executive Service need only possess the degree of B.A. or B.Sc. and they are appointed before they attain the age of 25, and by the time they are 31 or 32 years old they generally draw at least Rs. 300 a month. But a man must, at least, be a B.L. to qualify himself for a post in the Provincial Judicial Service and must serve an apprenticeship of at least three years in the Bar; and he seldom gets an officiating appointment before he is 28, and he is rarely confirmed before he is 31. The claims of this deserving class of public servants have, for years, been urged in this Council, and by none more forcibly, eloquently and persistently than by my hon'ble friend Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, and I do not wish to take up the time of this Council by enlarging on them.

At last, your Excellency's Government came to recognise the justice of their claims, and a sum of Rs. 21,000 was provided in last year's Budget to meet this just demand.

Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.

After this provision in the Budget they expected that the increase would take effect very soon, but months of the financial year went by without their hopes being realised, and at last in answer to a question of their steadfast champion they were coolly told to wait till the report of the Public Service Commission was received.

My Lord, hope deferred maketh the heart sick. It is not known when the Report of the Public Service Commission will be received. Even if it is received during the year, it will have to be considered by the Provincial Governments, by the Government of India and by the Secretary of State for India in Council, before its recommendations can be carried out. My Lord, all these processes will take at least half a dozen years.

Owing to the recall from leave of all officers there is a temporary block in promotion among the members of the Civil Service and the higher officers in the Police Department, and for this Government have been pleased to give them adequate compensation. Now to withhold indefinitely the small increase of pay to a very few of the members of the Provincial Judicial Service, for which provision was made in the last Budget and which they consequently expected almost every hour, seems hardly fair and just.

My Lord, the sum of Rs. 21,000 will not make a very big hole in the free balance of about 21 lakhs, which is in the hands of your Lordship's Government for new expenditure; and in spite of all that has happened, we earnestly hope and pray that the well-known sense of justice and fair play of your Lordship's Government will prevail over the desire to save a small sum; and your Lordship's Government will grant early in the course of the year the definitely-promised and long-delayed slight increase of pay to a very few of this deserving and hardworking class of public servants.

My Lord, the expenditure under the heading "Law Officers, Mufassal Establishment", is really getting beyond control and rising by leaps and bounds. In 1913-14, the expenditure under this head rose to about 2 lakhs above the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 2,78,000; last year it exceeded the budget estimate of Rs. 2,91,000 by nearly 3 lakhs; and calculating at this rate of increase we fear that in the present year the actual expenditure may exceed 6 lakhs. It is clear that this item of expenditure needs careful looking after.

My Lord, I now turn to a more pleasant duty. On behalf of the long-suffering people of about 800 villages in the districts of Hooghly and Burdwan I earnestly and sincerely thank your Excellency's Government for having adopted the scheme of Mr. Addams-Williams for mitigating the ravages of the annual Damodar floods; and for having provided a sum of Rs. 35,000 in the Budget presumably for the selection of the sites of reservoirs and for the preparation of detailed estimates, etc. Mr. Terrel, who has already been deputed to select suitable sites for reservoirs, will, I hope, be soon able to find them.

My Lord, when such eminent and experienced engineers as the late Mr. Maconchy and Messrs. Horn and Addams-Williams agree in recommending the same scheme, there cannot be the least doubt about its feasibility and effectiveness, and your Lordship's Government, by the steps they have already taken, clearly show that they are of the same view.

My Lord, I need not tell you that the people of the affected area are profoundly grateful and they firmly believe that their sufferings will soon be over. I hope that after the war, which, we all pray and believe, will end in a few months more, in the complete triumph of our Gracious Sovereign and in the utter discomfiture of Germany, your Excellency's Government will lose no time in going up to the Government of India for a suitable and adequate grant, so that the beneficent scheme may be put into execution and completed during the term of your Excellency's tenure of office and your

Lordship's name may be, for ever, blessed and held in grateful remembrance by the people.

On behalf of my community, I thank your Excellency's Government for appointing a committee to consider and report on the best means of improving Muhammadan education. The appointment of this committee is only one of several ways by which your Lordship's Government have shown their solicitude for the advancement of Muhammadan education; and my community is deeply grateful for it. The committee will, in the course of two or three months, submit their report, and we all hope and trust that their recommendations will be speedily given effect to and not pigeon-holed in the archives of the Secretariat.

My Lord, this is really a war Budget, though it does not directly provide for military or naval expenditure. The war has been the cause of diminished expenditure in many useful directions; of many urgent reforms being held back and of many contemplated schemes being postponed. I may be permitted to mention one instance out of many of such postponement which greatly affect my community. The long-sanctioned scheme of a Muhammadan Arts college in Calcutta, which we all expected, would be taken in hand this year, has been held back.

This war, my Lord, is the greatest in history and as such it has caused an amount of human misery which no other war ever did before. But, my Lord, nothing in this world is an unmixed evil, and even this war, calamitous as it is, has its compensations. It has, during these few months, enabled the people, the Press, and the statesmen of the United Kingdom to know India more truly and correctly than years of peace and prosperity could have done. It has changed the angle of British vision towards Indian problems, and India hopes, after the war, to find her proper place in the councils of the British Empire.

It has shown to a wondering and admiring world the complete solidarity of the Empire over which the sun never sets, and proved that the ties, which bind its different parts together, are simply unbreakable.

It has also demonstrated that the resources of the Empire are vast and varied and almost limitless; and that the bravery, endurance and heroism of its soldiers and sailors from different climes are simply wonderful and above praise; and that all these are at the service of liberty, right, justice and humanity.

We are confident, my Lord, that the sure and inevitable result of all this will be that the British Empire will stand higher in the estimation of the world after the war than it did before; and any future enemy will think thrice before he lifts his finger against it."

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR said :—

"MY LORD,

In the crisis we are passing through at present no better budget could have been presented to the Council, and I congratulate the Government on the same and, with Your Excellency's permission, offer a few observations.

It is very much to be regretted that we again find that the grant for works of sanitary improvements was not fully utilized. This, I believe, was owing to the District Boards and Municipalities not submitting schemes and drawing money. My Lord, I believe this state of things will continue unless and until the Sanitary Board is vested with powers to supervise effectually the workings of the District Boards and Municipalities in matters of sanitation and medical relief and to compel effectual steps to be taken to utilize the grant which Your Excellency's Government make for the purpose.

Babu Mahendra Nath Roy.

While on this subject I again submit that it is extremely desirable that the Sanitary Board should be further widened and strengthened by the inclusion in it of some more representative men.

And once again I request Your Excellency's Government to take into consideration the question whether the pay of the lower grade ministerial officers should not be enhanced on account of the high prices of food-grains and increased cost of living generally. The slight improvement which was effected in their salaries many years ago has been more than swallowed up by the increased and increasing cost of the necessaries of life. I submit that a small committee consisting of an official and one or two non-official members may be appointed to consider the question and advise Government in the matter.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I desire to be very brief; in fact, I had doubts whether I could usefully take up the time of this Council in offering criticisms on the Budget prepared under the special circumstances of this year. The most noticeable feature of the Budget is, of course, the economy necessitated by the stress of the great European war which is just going on. The Provincial Revenue must cover the charges, as, we are told, the Provincial balance is not available for expenditure with the net result that the bulk of the non-recurring grants on education, sanitation and other heads could not be provided. We, in this country, hardly feel, except through the 'Daily Press', that a great war is in progress which will have the effect of reorganising the whole civilised world, and which will, or is expected to, bring in order, justice and good-will, and no brute force will any longer rule the nations. So far as we are concerned up to the present moment, the sacrifices which we have been called upon to make are very, very slight indeed. Some great and important measures had been held up; and to take some concrete cases, affecting my own constituency, the people of Howrah, for instance, from which place I come, feel that their important schemes for the improvement of water-supply and sanitation have been suspended for the year because of the inability of the Government to make grants or to advance loans. The people of Howrah, I may add also, feel the loss of their popular Civil Surgeon who has been taken away to attend the sick soldiers. Experts tell us that the end of the war is in sight, and, therefore, let us hope that, when in March next we meet to consider the Budget for the next year, funds will be forthcoming which will enable the Government not only to continue the great and important works which are now being held up but also to contribute largely and substantially for the purposes of education and sanitation.

With your Excellency's permission, I shall make some brief references only to certain special points in connection with the Budget. Even a cursory study of the Budgets for the past few years will reveal the fact that very large savings are being annually made because of the non-utilisation of the Imperial grants on education and sanitation. This, I repeat, ought not to be. Works ought to be pushed on. The local authorities or the local bodies concerned ought to be roused into a state of activity, and unless that is done, it is not likely that sums devoted for such useful and important purposes as sanitation and education will be fully and properly utilised. I fully agree with my friend, the Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur, in his criticism of the existing constitution of the Sanitary Board and I believe that, until the Sanitary Board is placed upon a more representative basis, it will not be in a position to push on local authorities or local bodies in regard to the measures of sanitation to the extent I desire.

Babu Mahendra Nath Ray; Dr. Nilratan Sircar.

My Lord, I can give another instance. It is fresh in our recollection that the Government of India has made an allotment of 10 lakhs of rupees for hostels in connection with the Calcutta University. The information which has just reached the Vice-Chancellor tells us that the conditions upon which the grant could be utilised are rather stringent, and unless your Excellency's Educational Department and the Calcutta University co-operate without further loss of time and with all possible expedition, I am afraid, at the end of the year we shall find that the bulk of this munificent grant of 10 lakhs will remain unexpended.

The next point in regard to which I beg your Lordship's leave to offer some comment is an allotment of some 4 lakhs of rupees which I find in the Budget under the head of 'Non-recurring expenditure' on education, the details of which have not been settled yet. The Calcutta University is in sore need of about a lakh of rupees for the completion of the Science College Buildings, and I hope your Excellency's Government will consider in connection with this allotment, the details of which have not yet been settled, the supreme need for the money from the point of view of the Calcutta University. I listened with very great attention nearly a month ago to the speech, which my Hon'ble friend, the Director of Public Instruction, delivered while introducing the head 'Education', and I was left in some doubt. I do not know exactly what the 4 lakhs of rupees, the details of which are unsettled, was going to be spent for. I hope, however, my Hon'ble friend, in view of the circumstances I have placed before this Council, will consider the situation. With regard to the division which I represent, I am very glad to see that the total allotment of Rs. 1,25,000 has been made to chain the river Damodar which caused so much damage only two years ago.

I trust, lastly, my Lord, that, with regard to the allotments made to the Municipalities of Chinsurah, Uttarpara and Asansol for the improvement of water-supply during the course of the last year, there would be no difficulty in making a re-grant, if necessary, in the course of this year in order that the works might be completed. I cannot conclude without expressing my full concurrence in what my friend the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari said about the inadequate measures taken by Government for the teaching of M.A. and M.Sc. in the mufassal colleges for the management of which Government are responsible."

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR said:—

"MY LORD,

The people of Bengal and particularly the medical profession of this Province are deeply grateful to your Excellency's Government for the munificent offer of the grant to the Belgachia Hospital. We appreciate this help particularly as it has been granted at a time of great financial difficulty on account of the war.

My Lord, I do not think there was any justification for refunding the sum of Rs. 50,000 to the Indian Research Fund but it should instead have been utilized in jungle-cutting, carried out as an experimental anti-malarial measure. It would be difficult to convince the people of this Province that no suitable site or opportunity could be found in Bengal for carrying out this experimental measure. The Malaria Committee did not act wisely by accepting the opinions of their experts in preference to what might have resulted from the experiment. Having regard to the fact that the Government of India had proposed the experiment and made the pecuniary offer on the initiative of some of the highest authorities in India, the public could never be satisfied with the decision of the Committee which actually suggested the diversion of the fund to another experiment, viz., under ground drainage in certain areas—an object quite foreign to the intentions

of the Board. No wonder that in these circumstances that body asked for a refund of the amount. Few ever thought that jungle-clearing would eradicate malaria altogether from any locality, but the present experiment might have demonstrated the part played by jungle as a contributory factor in the causation of malaria. It is not denied that jungle when growing near households does form suitable shelter for anopheline mosquitoes as well as conceal their breeding places. In Panama and Italy all jungle is clear within a radius of 100 yards from dwelling-houses.

If jungle clearing has been disapproved, drainage has fared no better. The Arool Bhil Drainage Scheme as an anti-malarial matter was rejected by the Committee; for are not their villages at a distance from the Bhil site where the spleen rate was somewhat higher than in the Bhil area itself? The common-sense man should have thought that though the drainage of the stagnant Bhil could eradicate malaria in that quarter yet one of the potent factors might have been removed by this means.

We thus find all the anti-malarial measures undertaken in 1913 amounting to the following total only :—

Thirteen Sub-Assistant Surgeons were engaged to distribute quinine amongst the people in certain districts.

Certain medical officers in charge of travelling dispensaries distributed quinine and collected vital statistics in Jalpaiguri

Besides, the anti-malarial measures recommended in 1907 were carried on properly in four towns and partially in nine towns.

This speaks for itself. Against this we have five lakhs of deaths from malaria and at least ten times as many sufferers.

The whole world outside Bengal straightforwardly adopts the following measures indicated by Ross for the prevention of malaria :—

First—Destruction of the habitat of the anophelis in the larval stage (drainage, etc.).

Second.—Destruction of all protection of adult anophelis (jungle-clearing).

Third.—Prevention of access of anophelis into dwelling-houses.

Fourth.—Controlling the germs in the infected human body by quinine.

In Bengal the last one only has been adopted and that also on a small scale. As regards the other measures we are seriously advised by our experts to wait patiently in spite of an annual death-rate of five lakhs from this cause, until they find out the exact varieties of mosquitoes that carry malaria in Bengal.

But the Government of India are of a different mind. In their resolution on sanitary administration of the 23rd May 1914 the Government of India indicate that, besides encouraging the use of quinine by populations and minor anti-malarial measures, they advise that, notwithstanding the initial expense, those anti-malarial measures should be chosen which will act automatically, be independent of outside help and permanent in their effects. Presumably under this comprehensive definition the wide employment of major and minor sanitary works for the relief of surface and subsoil water is contemplated.

My Lord, I am aware that it will require a huge effort on the part of the Government as well as the people, very heavy expenditure and long time before we can achieve success. One asset we possess in the large stock of surplus anarchy of the people of Bengal and I think that by the adoption of proper means Your Excellency's Government can utilise a good portion of it for this purpose. As regards expenses, I trust your Lordship's Government will not shirk their responsibility in the matter considering that the annual

loss to the country in money value (taking the annual number of deaths from malaria to be about five lakhs and the average earning capacity of an individual Rs. 200, that is one-seventy-fifth only of that of an average inhabitant of Great Britain) is about ten crores of rupees.

My Lord, in a province where the death-rate is nearly thirty per mille, where the death-rate from fevers is nearly twenty per mille of which presumably at least half is caused by malaria, the usefulness of the knowledge of sanitary science cannot be overestimated. But this most useful knowledge is most neglected in Bengal. Bachelors of Arts and M.A's and M.Sc's may take their University degrees without knowing a single word about sanitation. In the primary school curriculum the subject of sanitary science finds a place, but the text-books selected are generally below the mark. Sanitary science is a growing science and an author must be a thoroughly educated and up-to-date man and should possess a thorough practical knowledge of the science based upon laboratory experience before his work can be a medium of instruction for young minds. And I am afraid that the Text-books Committee, constituted as it is at present, is not competent as a composite body to judge the merits of a text-book on matters connected with such a scientific subject. It is therefore desirable that there should be a separate committee of scientific men for advising the Director of Public Instruction in the selection of text-books on sanitary subjects.

I would like to draw the attention of your Excellency to the provisional arrangements that have been made in the Medical College Hospital in the vacancies caused by the reversion to the military department of some of their Indian Medical Service officers. The duties of a surgeon who used to operate upon dozens of cases every day were for some time being done by a physiologist and only for the last few weeks by another officer in addition to his own onerous duties as the head of one of the largest medical institutions of this city. The duties again of a physician are being done by a biologist also in addition to his own duties as professor of two scientific subjects, viz., Botany and Zoology. This sort of arrangement unjustly prevents officers of the subordinate ranks, many of whom are fully qualified for the situations now vacant, from rising to the aspired position. But anyhow an Indian Medical Service man must be found to officiate for the posts no matter whether the particular may have more than enough to do in his own line. I trust that your Lordship's Government will not be afraid of creating 'inconvenient precedents' and doing justice to the very deserving surgeons and physicians of the assistant surgeon class in this respect.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said:—

"My Lord,

The order of the Government of India to keep our expenditure within our income as estimated in the Budget is no doubt due to the continuance of the disastrous war which has overtaken the Empire. Still, we are grateful to the Government of India for having allowed us to draw upon the provincial balance to the extent of nearly 30 lakhs and for a grant of a lump sum of 10 lakhs to the Calcutta University for the construction of hostels. The opening balance of the new financial year amounts to a large sum of Rs. 281 lakhs and it appears that this is mainly due to the curtailment of expenditure during the last financial year to the extent of 83½ lakhs, the bulk of which comprises reduction of expenditure on education and sanitation. My Lord, as citizens of the great British Empire, we do not grudge the most rigid economy and curtailment of avoidable expenditure during the continuance of the great war which is taxing to the utmost the resources of the Empire. We all hope the war will soon come to an end with undying glory to our gracious Sovereign. We have not the slightest doubt that the

Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.

British arms aided by the loyal and devoted services of the Indian soldiery will come out victorious in the end. The Indian sepoys are fighting hand in hand as comrades in arms with their English brethren and the glory and success of the British arms is not only a matter of pride to our English fellow-subjects but to the teeming millions of His Majesty's Indian subjects. We have no doubt that after the termination of war the beneficent work of Indian progress and reform will be carried on with greater vigour and energy and greater sympathy with the wants, wishes and aspirations of His Majesty's subjects in this vast Indian Empire whose destinies have been committed by an all-wise Providence to the great British nation.

My Lord, the annual financial statement would be more clear and much more easily understandable if the departmental budgets were appended to it. The Government have granted the privilege to the non-official members of the reformed Council to examine, criticise and suggest amendments in the Budget with a view to meet the popular wishes as far as practicable and that generous intention can be best fulfilled by giving them proper facilities to examine the departmental Budget from which the abstract financial statement is made. This will enable the Hon'ble Members to understand the figures more fully and will enable them to render real and more useful help to Government. May I hope that this suggestion will be taken into the favourable consideration of your Excellency's Government? Another suggestion which I made last year I venture to repeat for your Excellency's consideration. The Finance Committee which is appointed late in the year and meets once or twice towards the end of the year practically does the formal business of approving the distribution of the unallotted amount. A more active participation of the non-official members can be secured if the Finance Committee is re-elected at the beginning of the year and is made a Standing Committee. All the projects intended to be included in the ensuing year might be laid before the Committee for consideration and the non-official members may be given the liberty of bringing any proposal for increase or decrease of any grant or inclusion or exclusion of any new item before the Committee. The interchange of views between the official and the non-official members in the Committee and the threshing out of the facts and figures in the Committee cannot but have a most beneficial effect. In such a Standing Committee much useful and solid work would be done and the non-official members would be stimulated by a sense of real mutual co-operation between the official and the non-official members in the framing of the Budget.

My Lord, a presidency or house allowance is not granted to the members of the Provincial Civil Service posted in Calcutta, whereas the same is granted to the members of the Indian Civil Service and to other officers in the postal and financial departments. To take a concrete example, there are at present four permanent stipendiary Presidency Magistrates and one temporary Magistrate, all of whom have to do the same kind of work, keep up the same dignity and prestige. But, unfortunately, whereas the pay of the Chief Presidency Magistrate (who is a barrister-at-law) ranges between Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 a month and the pay of the Second Magistrate, who is also a barrister-at-law, is Rs. 1,250 a month, the Third and the Fourth Presidency Magistrates, who have been selected for meritorious work from the ranks of experienced members of the Executive branch of the Provincial Civil Service, get only Rs. 750 and Rs. 650 a month, respectively. The pay is quite disproportionate and will compare unfavourably with those of the sister service, viz., the Judges of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, where the lowest pay of the Fifth Judge, even when he is a member of the Judicial Branch of the Provincial Civil Service, is Rs. 1,000 a month. To add to the inequalities, the Chief Presidency Magistrate and the Second Presidency Magistrate have been admitted to the scheme of the Presidency House Allowance, but the other stipendiary Magistrates, though their work is

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equally arduous and onerous, and though they have to maintain the same prestige and position as their brother Magistrates the Chief and the Second Presidency Magistrates, have not been admitted to the scheme of the Presidency House Allowance, simply because they are members of the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service. It may not be out of place to point out that the Under-Secretary, Revenue Department, though the present incumbent is a member of the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service, gets and rightly gets Presidency house allowance as also the Collector of Calcutta and the Registrar, Co-operative Credit Societies, though both the posts are held by members of the same service to which the Presidency Magistrate referred to belongs. The enrolled officers in the Financial Department and recently some officers in the Post and Telegraph Department have all been admitted to the House Allowance scheme. The cost of living, including house-rent, has gone up by leaps and bounds in Calcutta and the officers posted in the Presidency Town find it very difficult to make both ends meet, with a due regard to their position and dignity. In the circumstances, I would respectfully request Your Excellency's Government to take the case of these hard-worked officers and redress their just grievances by bettering their emoluments and admitting them to the Presidency House Allowance scheme.

My Lord, an additional grant for the Presidency Magistrates' Courts owing to the division of the Courts and their location in three places has been made at a time when strict economy is being effected in all directions. I do not demur to the small additional sum, but I feel bound to submit to Your Excellency that the partition of the Courts has not produced any public advantage. Already the recurring cost of establishment has been considerably increased, besides a large sum has been spent in non-recurring capital expenditure in making additions to and alterations in the three new Court buildings at Bankshall Street, Kyd Street and Jorabagan. Although the Government have incurred additional expenditure the partition has not in any way increased the efficiency of the Courts. There is rush of work in one Court, while in another the work is not sufficient to occupy a Magistrate fully. The public have been put to immense trouble and inconvenience. The best legal help has been rendered costlier in criminal cases. The lawyers who have established their reputation have stuck to the Central Court and they now charge increased fees for their services in the two other Courts. The travelling expenses of the parties have more or less increased, the Courts being situated at inconvenient centres. Again, under the present arrangement, all S. P. C. A. cases relating to cruelties to animals, all traffic and Port Police cases, all motor-car cases, occurring in any part of the town, are now tried at the Kyd Street Court. An unfortunate carter may be arrested either by a S. P. C. A. Agent at Shambazar, or by a Traffic Police Constable at Bagh Bazar, but he would be hauled up all the way to Kyd Street, to be fined possibly a rupee or two, although he would have to pass over the jurisdictions of two other Courts at Jorabagan and Bankshall Street. A person living in Sitaram Ghose's Street near Harrison Road has to go to Kyd Street to institute a criminal case, although the Bankshall Street Court is very much nearer to him. What is the good of having a partition of the Courts, when cases arising within the jurisdiction of one Court are tried in another and parties in order to seek a redress of their grievances are compelled to go to a distant Court? It may give some work to a highly-paid Magistrate, who would otherwise remain idle, but it means harassment, worry and inconvenience to the public.

The partition has neither led to more efficient despatch of business, nor has it relieved the Registrar of his judicial duties so as to enable him to attend to his ministerial work properly, nor has it given a substantial measure of relief to the Chief Presidency Magistrate.

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As economy and efficiency are the watchwords of Your Excellency's Government, I would respectfully suggest that all the Police Courts might be more conveniently located in one big building. Then, if the work is more evenly distributed and the ungrudging services of the Honorary Presidency Magistrates are judiciously and properly utilised, the Government might eventually be able to dispense with the temporary Magistrate, not to speak of economy in the recurring cost of establishment. If this suggestion be accepted, the Government would not have to deal out these doles to the Police Courts, which would otherwise become a regular feature of the Budget for some time yet to come.

My Lord, a sum of Rs. 50,000 is set apart for gratuitous relief.

My Lord, last year a provision was made for raising the pay of the lowest grade of Munsifs. This year the sum has disappeared. An expectation was raised that it was about to be fulfilled and like a vision it has passed away. The Munsifs are a hard-worked body of public servants recruited from the best intellectual section of our community. The lowest grade Deputy Magistrate gets Rs. 250 but the Munsif gets Rs. 200 only. The Munsif's work is not less onerous and if I may say so is more onerous and burdensome than that of the Deputy Magistrate and yet he gets Rs. 200, a very miserable pittance for an educated man in these hard days. A feeling of despondency gives rise to discontent and I devoutly hope that the scale of pay would be revised.

My Lord, I am not able to know what provisions have been made for repairing the Grand Trunk Road. I once brought to the notice of Government the disgraceful condition of the road, over a portion of the road the Howrah-Amta line runs and the narrow portion that is left is simply impassable during the rains. The road requires thorough repairs and in parts reconstruction. It is not to the credit of the Public Works Department that it should be so long left in this condition.

My Lord, the appointment of Mr. Swan raised high hopes in our minds that the Government would avail themselves of the present situation to take some practical steps for the encouragement of swadeshi industries. As yet we find no tangible result. The Government the other day accepted the resolution of the Hon'ble Raja of Kakina to develop small industries by all practical means. I am sure it is a sincere intention of Government to foster our industries. The wisdom of the policy of State aid to industries is recognised by the Imperial Government and many Provincial Governments have already moved in the matter. We are anxious that our Government should move in this direction. I do not mean that the Government as custodian of the public purse should spend money on speculative enterprise. Between embarking on wild speculation and the policy of *laissez-faire* there is a *via media* and I implore the Government to consider whether they should not follow some such path. There are some industries in Bengal which are in a pretty well developed condition. The companies are unable to develop them or extend their business to new lines owing to lack of capital and Government patronage. I mention amongst them the Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works and the Calcutta Pottery Works. These companies are not new ventures. They have demonstrated their capacities for successful and profitable management. I can also mention the comb industries of Jessore and the pencil and match factories in Calcutta. I understand the match factory in Taligunj suffers for want of match wood. I learn with pleasure that the Government has already signified its desire to help this concern by supply of wood. The Government may give sufficient impetus to the growth of new industries. It is a well-known fact that Bengal from time immemorial has been the home of manufactured sugar. The sugar industries of Jessore are a well-known fact, but in what a miserable plight are they now! Apart from date-sugar, the

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output of cane-sugar has also considerably fallen of. The indigenous sugar refineries, as was forcibly pointed out by the Hon'ble Rai Sita Nath Ray in the Imperial Council, are well-nigh extinct. The competition of Java, Mauritius and Austria-Hungary have proved too much for them. The Government can do a great deal. They can assist in the improvement of *gur*. It is well known that the crushing of cane is very imperfect in our country not more than 50 per cent. of sugar is extracted. Improved cane-mills for crushing may be popularised amongst cultivators and tuccavi grants made for this purpose. Experiments are being made in Madras, Bombay and the United Provinces. In the latter province I understand that financial aid to the extent of 7 lakhs has been given to two large sugar factories. We are aware of one such factory in Bengal which stands in need of such aid. There may be some factories in Bengal which may require such aid and the Government may, after due inquiry, well follow the example of the Government of the United Provinces. Next to sugar comes the industry of leather-making. Bengal is a great exporting centre of raw skins and hides, but there are few leather industries in our province and those that exist are not in a flourishing condition. I am glad to say that an Hon'ble Member of this Council is the proprietor of one and he has invested much capital in it. I am sure he can say as to how the Government can help the industry. Madras long ago showed the way of having a Government Leather Factory. Thanks to the exertion of Mr. Chatterton, this State-controlled industry has, I understand, paved the way for the growth of many private enterprises of its kind. May our Government begin some work in this line. The Government may demonstrate to the people the various cottage industries which may profitably be undertaken. The District Administration Committee has dwelt at length on the economic distress of the people, specially of the bhadralok classes. It is time that some practical steps were taken. The economic distress of the people is the root cause of the detestable crimes which have distressed the community so much. The Government may very well consider the question of appointment of a director of industries with an advisory board of experts to consider and devise the best means of promoting local industries and this is the most opportune time. I regret no allotment of money has been made in this year's Budget for the promotion of local industries.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord,

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the member in charge for providing us with a satisfactory budget in this time of stress and trouble caused by the war now raging in Europe and which has not permitted the usual normal allotments to be made under the different heads of expenditure. It is no doubt rather disappointing to us to find many desirable and pressing schemes of reform put off on account of the extraordinary financial situation, but we must be thankful for whatever we have been able to get in the shape of modest doles which, let us hope, will keep us going till better times come, as come they must to-day or to-morrow.

EDUCATION.

I am sure our sincerest thanks are also due to our Hon'ble friend Mr. Hornell for the best consideration he has given on the adjustments of the budget heads with the very limited resources at his disposal.

Madrassah Reforms.—I shall be failing in my duty if I do not at the very outset express my high appreciation of the motive which prompted Your Excellency's Government to give effect to the long-wished-for scheme of Madrassah Reforms at a time when the purse of Government has been

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stretched to its utmost. It will open a new era to the Muhammadans who have for many years past lagged behind in the race of life. And the carrying out of this much-needed reform will fittingly lead up to the Faculty of Islamic Studies to be established in connection with the Dacca University.

Mohsin Grant.—My best thanks are also due to Your Excellency's Government for the increased provision of stipends and part payment of fees of Muhammadan students out of the Mohsin grant set free by the provincialisation of the Chittagong, Dacca, Hooghly and Rajshahi Madrassahs. By this act of benevolence Your Excellency will ever be remembered with feelings of pride and gratitude.

Dacca University.—Another important proposal which has been hanging fire for some time and with which is bound up the educational interests of a large section of the people of this Presidency, is about to emerge from the domain of the problematic and become an accomplished fact. For I take it, my Lord, that an allotment for the Dacca University even in this year of financial embarrassment, is a sure indication that Government are fully alive to the importance of the scheme. And let us hope that sanction will be obtained for the detailed scheme without any further loss of time, and the work of building up the first residential University of India expedited.

Hostel accommodation for Moslem students.—Talking of the residential University brings me on to a subject on which my community feels very strongly —I mean the want of adequate hostel accommodation for the Moslem students of Calcutta. And in this matter our grateful thanks are due to Your Lordship's Government for the liberal grant for an extension of the Baker Hostel. I desire at the same time to make it clear that any extension of the Baker Hostel, whatever its usefulness might be in connection with the proposed Moslem College and other Arts Colleges, will not certainly dispense with the necessity of founding another suitable hostel in the vicinity of College Square to accommodate the Science and Law students of the Presidency College and of the University.

It is truly conceived that for the training of the intellect and for the moulding of character the students should be brought together outside school hours under conditions of greater individual freedom. The effect of corporate life on character is great. It promotes intellectual discipline, mutual sympathies and universality of true knowledge—an object which can be attained only through the personal and active co-operation of teachers and students. The conditions under which a considerable proportion of our Calcutta students live are unfavourable to the growth of that *esprit de corps* which alone enlarges the mind, broadens sympathies and fits students for public duties.

It is, however, a matter for great regret that the two premier colleges in Calcutta, *viz.*, the Presidency and the Law Colleges are yet without any hostels for Muhammadans. The benefits of residential colleges are immense and should not be denied to a section of the community whose interests are bound up with the material progress of the country they live in. The Muhammadans have reasons to feel that in the matter of higher education they have not received their due share of attention from the University which guides the destinies of our schools and colleges.

As instances of the apathy of the University authorities towards the interests of the Muhammadans, I may here point out that although the University received a grant of 3 lakhs of rupees from the Government to erect a college hostel, no provision was made for accommodating Muhammadans therein. Certainly, Government did not specify that the sum was to be spent for any particular community. I shall also take the liberty of giving another instance. The Government grant a sum of about ten thousand rupees and sometimes even more on an average, which is further supplemented by

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University grants for the Calcutta messes. Till 1913 only one Muhammadan mess appears to have received Rs. 20 per mensem and one other perhaps a similar sum. The consequence has been that Muhammadan students are obliged to find quarters in unhealthy centres away from all that contributes to healthy living.

We certainly owe an immense debt of gratitude to the Government of India for the very liberal subvention of 10 lakhs to the Calcutta University for provision of hostels for students in Calcutta. But our gratitude would have been still greater if a substantial portion of this had been earmarked for hostels for Muhammadan students of the University. Knowing, as I do, of the anxious solicitude of the Government of India for all that makes for the educational advancement of all classes alike, I appeal, on behalf of my brethren, to Your Excellency in the hope that a suitable portion of the Government of India's subvention will be earmarked for hostels for Muhammadan students in College Square.

Moslem Institute.—While the University Institute comes in for an allotment, it is a matter for regret that no provision has been made for the Moslem Institute, the needs of which have already been pressed upon Government.

Hastings House School.—I hope Your Excellency will pardon me when I raise my voice against a scheme for the foundation of a special school for the children of men in affluent circumstances, I mean the Hastings House School, as I understand from the speech of the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell when explaining the Education Budget. The inception of the idea comes as a surprise to me. I am afraid that the public was not consulted in the matter by Government in the same manner as in connection with a very similar scheme proposed by the Dacca University Committee. In opposing the scheme, I do not oppose the principle of starting a model school on the lines of public schools in England, and I would have had nothing to say against the Hastings House School if it were entirely endowed by the well-to-do classes. I would surely advocate the necessity of a model institution staffed, equipped and furnished after the fashion of a best English school, provided it be thrown open to those who might choose to receive the best education and bear its expenses and be maintained by them exclusively. Such an institution will do a world of good to the ordinary schools in general who will endeavour to emulate the high standard of efficiency maintained by it in respect of education, discipline, management and organisation. My Lord, I think it is only meet and proper that public revenues coming as they do from the coffers of the rich and poor alike should be utilised in the best interests of the people. And to my mind there can be no justification proposing to spend a large sum from general revenue for the sake of a favoured few who should be able to provide for the education of their children without any financial aid from Government. I beg to remind Your Excellency that all the arguments which were made use of against the proposed college for the well-to-do classes, which has since been knocked on the head, can be applied with greater force against the present proposal, for under the Dacca scheme the institution was not meant to be a burden on public revenues.

POLICE.

The Police Department has our sympathy in the very responsible and arduous task before them especially at this juncture. That some heinous crimes which are on the increase go undetected is a matter of great concern to all of us and may indicate the inefficiency of the police, and I am sure that in the best interests of Government and the country, we shall be glad to see the police staff so strengthened numerically as well as in point of efficiency as to be able to cope with the evils now existing and which threaten the homes and hearths of the people.

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MEDICAL.

Malaria.—The Malaria question seems to loom large just now. From a perusal of the latest report on the sanitation of Bengal, I notice with grave concern the increase in the death-rate as compared with the other major provinces while there is a marked decrease in the birth-rate, *72 per cent.* of the general death-rate is put down to *fevers* which we may take it is mainly malaria. It is therefore to be regretted that the grants for works of sanitary improvements have not been fully utilised and that the sum of Rs. 50,000 has been returned to the Indian Research Institute as the sum could not be utilised in the manner suggested by that body.

Water-supply.—In this connection I note with regret that neither under Medical nor Civil Works do I find any allotment for water-supply. The want of pure drinking water is greatly felt in the mufassal stations, and it is an urgent necessity the importance of which cannot be overrated. In this matter I may add that the District Boards labour under a great disadvantage. For although there are ample funds in the hands of the District Boards, thanks to the release of the Public Works Cess, according to existing rules for the supply of pure drinking water the local people have to contribute one-third of the cost, and this hard condition does not make it possible for District Boards to undertake the work in very many instances. I beg to point out that this rule prejudicially affects those localities where the poverty of the people does not allow the contribution of the requisite one-third to be made. Thus in practice only those who are comparatively well-off and not those who are really in need can, under these conditions, derive the benefit of District Board grants for drinking water.

Having regard to these circumstances, I think it is proper that a fair proportion of the Public Works Cess should be specially set apart for the supply of pure drinking water in the mufassal, and the stringency of the present rule should be relaxed in favour of poorer localities.

EXCISE.

I notice that there is a slight increase in revenue under excise, though there is a fall under other heads notably under Stamps, and this steady increase year by year demands our serious consideration. I would take this opportunity of urging Government to extend the system of local advisory committees in Bengal with increased power over the issue of licenses. In the matter of counter-attractions to intemperance, it would be interesting to know what Government intend doing. In this connection, I may observe that I am not aware of any local temperance organisations engaged in useful work having local habitations for public meetings or reading-rooms stocked with temperance and purity literature. I might also here suggest that the question of the introduction of temperance teaching in schools be reconsidered and more lessons on the subject introduced and facilities given to colleges and schools to have temperance and purity lectures and Bands-of-Hope instituted by means of which useful work may be done systematically among the youth of the country.

The time-limit does not permit me to say all that I wish to say, and in concluding I cannot but repeat my thanks, and the thanks of those whom I represent, to Your Excellency's Government for tackling the present situation in a truly statesmanlike way. We are passing through a period of extraordinary stress. And I am proud to point out that my community has been preserving a perfect equanimity in the midst of rather trying circumstances. Before resuming my seat I can assure Your Excellency, if any assurance is necessary, that the Moslem community is loyal to the core to-day quite as much as it was before the European war broke out."

Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY said :—

"MY LORD,

It is with very great pleasure that I congratulate the Government on the successful results in the Budget which provides for no new taxation in spite of the critical financial situation caused by the outbreak of the European war.

2. We have to offer our grateful thanks to the Government of India for permitting us to draw on our accumulated balance to the extent of nearly thirty lakhs for expenditure during the ensuing year. But for this liberal treatment, which is highly appreciated in the present critical financial situation, our necessary expenditure would have had to be curtailed considerably.

3. On the whole the Budget under all the heads has been so carefully prepared and so lucidly explained that not much remains to be said by way of suggestion.

4. There is, however, one point in regard to the provisions under Education and Medical on which I desire to make some remarks. The actuals for 1912-13 and 1913-14 and the revised estimates for the current year under the heads compare as follows with the Budget grant for the years.

		1912-13	1913-14.
		Rs.	Rs
22 Education ...	Budget ...	78,45,000	1,34,88,000
	Actual ...	73,77,000	81,12,000
		1914-15	
		Rs	
	Budget ...	1,45,43,000	
	Revised ...	83,73,000	

		1912-13	1913-14
		Rs	Rs
24. Medical ...	Budget ...	36,95,000	41,01,000
	Actual ...	26,42,000	28,50,000
		1914-15.	
		Rs.	
	Budget ...	47,81,000	
	Revised ...	30,23,000	

These figures indicate that although provision under these heads is very generously made in the Budget the actual expenditure falls far short of the estimate. This is apparently due to the fact that it takes a good long time to mature a new programme in the direction of reforms. I fully realise that it is not in any way desirable to rush through any scheme simply with the object of spending the money provided for in the Budget. It however occurs to me at the same time that this inevitable delay is due partly to the present arrangement of incurring the major portion of the expenditure through the agency of Government. I find from the actuals under head 22—Education that nearly $\frac{1}{4}$th of the total expenditure is given as grants for expenditure by local bodies leaving $\frac{3}{4}$ths to be spent by Government themselves. This ratio, I submit, may be increased considerably by giving to the local bodies a larger share in the expenditure. Municipalities and District Boards may easily be asked to open new colleges and schools or improve the status of existing ones at the cost and under the direction of Government. This is, I submit, more desirable than showing a large unspent balance under head 'Education' from year to year. It may also remove the

congestion in the existing colleges in Calcutta of which we hear so much now and again. There is only one Medical College in Calcutta and every one knows that a large number of boys are refused admission into the college every year simply for want of accommodation. I am not aware whether there can be any serious objection in having two instead of one Government Medical College, or subsidizing well-managed private medical schools so that their status may be raised. I have the honour of being a governor of the Mayo Hospital which renders, I believe, valuable medical aid to a very large number of residents of the northern part of the town and it is, I know, badly in want of additional funds though its resources are administered very carefully and economically under the wise management of Colonel Maynard, the Superintendent of the Institution.

5. I may be permitted to add that the unspent portion of the Budget provision under the heads 'Medical' and 'Sanitation' may also very usefully be applied to sanitary reforms through Municipalities and District Boards which for want of funds are quite helpless in combating with the ever existing havoc played by diseases like malaria, small-pox and cholera throughout the length and breadth of the Presidency.

6. There is no more crying want in the province than the provision of pure drinking water in the mufassal. All the learned researches about malaria will be of no avail if the people have not got pure water to drink. We can do without a grant to the Calcutta Improvement Trust or additional expenditure on Education, Police, Public Works and Medical relief, but we cannot do without pure drinking water. I am inclined to think that every pice unspent under any head may be devoted to the provision of pure drinking water for the mufassal. It is a subject the importance of which no one in this Presidency, whether in or outside the Council, will deny, and I do not find adequate words to impress upon our sympathetic Government this prime necessity of the Presidency, a necessity beside which all others pale into insignificance.

7. I have now only to express a hope that the Government will in future be pleased to direct their attention to the crying want referred to above instead of keeping a large budget provision unspent under the Heads of 'Education' and 'Medical.'

The HON'BLE BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said:—

"My Lord,

It is a matter of congratulation that in this year of stress and strain, your Lordship's government have been able to present, if not quite a prosperous, at least a fairly presentable budget. But, my Lord, in prosperous years when there was, if not superfluity, at least fairly large sums at the disposal of your Lordship's Government due to large allotments made by the Government of India, your Lordship's Government did not utilise the money and we find the Hon'ble the Director of Public Instruction complaining this year that the amount available falls far short of requirements.

In placing the financial statement in the Imperial Council on the 1st March last Sir William Meyer while dealing with provincial expenditure said: 'The aggregate provincial expenditure was taken in the budget at 34 millions sterling. It is now estimated at 1½ million sterling less, viz., about 32½ millions. The principle reductions occur under education, medical and civil works, and are due to the Local Governments not having spent in full the grants at their disposal for the development of education and sanitation and for other purposes. As I suggested in paragraph 28 of my speech last year, I was a little sceptical then as to their ability to spend all that they hoped; and

Babu Surendra Nath Ray.

it may be that some lapse would have occurred in any case'. My Lord, if the Finance Member of the Government of India was sceptical about the inability of the Provincial Governments to spend the Imperial grant whether recurring or non-recurring there were men among the non-official community, whether in this Council or outside, who also thought that the money thus granted would not be spent. From the financial statement which has been placed in our hands it appears that there was a total decrease in the revised estimate on the expenditure side for the year 1914-15 of Rs. 99,75,000 and of this amount no less than Rs. 61,70,000 are due to savings in the Imperial grants for both recurring and non-recurring expenditure on education. I think, my Lord, it was the intention of the Imperial Government that the money which is set apart for a particular purpose should be spent; at least there ought to be some attempt on the part of Government to spend it. We do not know what steps have been taken by Government to spend the money and we have not been able so far to see any indication in that direction. We are not in the secrets of Government, but we have every reason to believe that if Government had the will it would have spent, if not the entire, at least a good portion of the money allotted. Complaints are generally made that improvements cannot generally be made on account of lack of funds. But seldom do we find that ways and means cannot be found to spend money in a profitable way when we have got it.

The secondary education of this country is almost entirely in the hands of its people, the expenses being almost entirely borne by them. Though, according to the Government rules, Government contribution is not to be more than one half of the income guaranteed from private sources, the actual contribution has only been about 14 per cent., or a little less than one-seventh. It is with very great difficulty that the school authorities can make both ends meet. The Indian Universities Act of 1904 and the regulations framed thereunder have imposed additional obligations on the authorities of secondary schools which require additional expenditure. It was expected that Government would come forward to help the schools with monetary grants to tide over their difficulties, but very little has been done in this direction. For the last three or four years there have been no doubt large grants by the Imperial Government to this Government for expenditure on education. But these grants have not been distributed to the institutions they were intended to benefit. My Lord, we hear of complaints about the management of secondary schools. But we should like to know what steps have been taken by Government to improve the financial condition of these schools so that they may have funds enough at their disposal to employ good teachers that the boys may live in healthy surroundings. If Government had been in actual need of funds, that would have been quite different. But when Government have got the money and money for the purpose of spending on education, one really cannot understand why the schools should starve.

I have been informed that a large number of schools cannot comply with the University Regulations and have been threatened or may be threatened ere long with disaffiliation. But compliance with University Regulations means additional expenditure—additional money. Government have not so far contributed their fair share to the secondary education of this province. The people have got a legitimate grievance on this head which needs redress.

The policy of Government with regard to primary education has, I venture to submit, not been altogether satisfactory. The policy pursued by Government with regard to the allotment of grants from Provincial revenues and local funds with regard to primary education has tended towards taking away the grants from private schools and concentrating the same on the development of board primary schools so that during 1913-14, 626 primary schools were abolished with a diminution in the school-going boys of more

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than 17,000. If, with the large sums allotted for education by the Government of India, Your Lordship's Government are unable to improve or even to keep alive the existing primary schools, the prospect of the progress of education in this country does not appear to be very bright

While on the subject of education I should like to suggest for the consideration of your Lordship's Government the desirability of establishing elementary schools for girls throughout the Presidency. If primary education for boys is necessary, that for girls is equally so. Time has come when a beginning ought to be made in this direction. It is time that Government should unloose their purse-strings for fostering primary, secondary and female education of the Presidency. Government may have at heart the desire to improve the education of the province, but people are anxious to see more practical demonstration of the same.

PROVINCIAL JUDICIAL SERVICE.

In answer to a question at the meeting of this Council on the 19th January last as to whether the abolition of the existing last grade of Munsifs in Bengal would take effect from the commencement of the current financial year, as provided in the current year's budget, if not, from what date would the abolition take effect, and what the reasons for delay were, the reply was given that it was not possible to state from what date the abolition of the last grade of Munsifs in Bengal would take effect. We were further told 'Government regret that they are not prepared to make recommendations at the present time for the immediate increase of expenditure which the proposal would involve and are awaiting the report of the Royal Commission on the Public Services before taking further action in the matter.' I need hardly say that the answer is very disappointing. It was expected that the last grade of Munsifs drawing at present a pay of Rs. 200 would get the pay of Rs. 250 from the beginning of the last financial year, *viz.*, 1914-15. In fact, provision of Rs. 21,000 was made in the budget of 1914-15 for giving effect to the present proposal, but we are now told that the last grade of Munsifs must await the report of the Royal Commission for the increase in their pay. It is unfortunate that when these hard-working officers were on the tip-toe of expectation of getting an addition to their pay, they have suddenly been told that they would have to wait for an indefinite period. The Courts of Sub-Judges and Munsifs are one of the principal sources of income to Government. Government would not have to bring money from other heads of revenue to pay them this additional amount. Since the constitution of this Royal Commission, the members of the Indian Civil Service have had their salaries increased twice, no doubt not twice in this Presidency. They were never told to await the report of the Royal Commission. When about two years ago Government found that there was block in the promotion of the members of the Indian Civil Service in the Punjab and the Central Provinces and I think in the United Provinces as well, an increase in their pay or a separate allowance was given to them. When again after the outbreak of the great European war, the members of the Indian Civil Service who were on leave had to return to India, additional allowance was given not only to those who had been deprived of acting or deputation allowance but to all members of the service. They had not to await the Report of the Royal Commission. Nobody objects to the granting of these additional allowances to the members of the Indian Civil Service for it is necessary that the hard-working and devoted servants of Government upon whose shoulders fall the task of administering the empire should remain content if you want to get full share of work from them. But if the members of the Indian Civil Service deserve well of the Government, the members of the Provincial Judicial Service equally deserve encouragement at the hands of Government. They are really an ill-paid lot of gentlemen who do hard work without complaining and in

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places where proper accommodation being wanting they have to live in huts. But whether they live in huts or in brick-built houses, their administration of civil justice yields a large revenue to Government. It is necessary that every wheel in the machine should be properly greased if you want the machine to work properly. It is only fair that Government should treat all their servants in the same way, that no branch of the service should be discontented. In the Provincial Executive Service the minimum pay has been raised to Rs. 250. It is rather anomalous that the pay of the last grade of Munsifs should still be Rs. 200.

My Lord, the amount which will be required to raise the initial pay of Munsifs to Rs. 250 a month is not very large. It is only Rs. 21,000. I need hardly say that if Government have the will, they will find out the ways and means to give effect to this proposal.

MALARIA.

My Lord, malaria is decimating the country. From the answers given to my questions on the 2nd March, it appears that in the district of Nadia alone nearly 12,000 people died in the month of November last and nearly the same number in the month of December. If proper enquiry is made it will be found that a large number of these deaths is due to malaria.

That quinine is the best remedy for the cure of malaria is admitted on all hands. It is, however, said by those who are in a position to speak with authority on the subject that at least 80 grains of quinine should be administered to a patient suffering from malarious fever to check the disease effectively. But dispensaries and hospitals in the mufassal can ill afford to pay for and administer quinine according to this rule. They are financially not so solvent as to distribute such large quantities of quinine as is considered to be sufficient to kill the malaria germ in the system and prevent the relapse of the fever. We are grateful to your Lordship's Government for the steps which have been taken to improve the sanitary condition of this Province. Large contributions have been made by Government for the supply of pure drinking water in mufassal towns. But steps should be taken to give greater medical relief to the poor. Certain quantities of quinine have no doubt been supplied free of cost to the mission dispensaries at Ranaghat, Ratanpur and Meherpur. Your Lordship's Government stated the other day in reply to my questions about the unsanitary condition and heavy mortality of the Nadia district that District Boards and Municipalities had been requested to arrange for the administration of adequate doses of quinine to all persons treated for the disease at charitable dispensaries. We have also been informed that in exceptional cases grants had been given from Provincial Revenues to such municipalities as were really unable to bear the extra charge incurred on this account. The rich and the poor alike have been suffering from the effects of malaria,—its ravages have been far and wide. I respectfully submit for the consideration of your Lordship's Government that if there be a substantial contribution from Government for the free and larger distribution of quinine, if as a beginning at least 250 dispensaries be supplied with sufficient quantity of quinine, thousands of poor people will be saved from the jaws of death. Magistrates and Civil Surgeons in charge of malarious districts might very well be entrusted with the disbursement of the amount under this head. It is time that the Public Works cess which has been set free should be properly spent in sanitary improvement of districts and be not amalgamated with the income from other sources of District Boards.

JUNGLE-CUTTING.

We find from the Financial Statement that your Lordship's Government have returned to the Government of India the sum of Rs. 50,000 which they had paid for jungle-cutting. The first thought that struck us on reading about this refund was that there was no more any jungle in the

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Province, otherwise why should your Lordship's Government take this unusual step of refunding this amount? The second thought was that Government of India must have made a mistake in connecting malaria with jungles in this Province. We have, however, not been informed as to what led to the refund of this money."

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF said —

"MY LORD,

I shall with your Excellency's permission make a few observations on some outstanding questions of the day.

Naturally, the subject of education claims an important place in our attention. As belonging to the commercial Muhammadan community, my views and those of the Government, as embodied in the expenditure side of the Budget, do not coincide. There is much to recommend in the old saying 'Learning for learning's sake': it represents the high-water mark of scholastic altruism; but men can't grow and races cannot live on mere learning. My Lord, I am not concerned with politics in education, and I venture to urge that in order to free our schools from the suspicion or the taint of political bias, the best way to approach the question of education is as one of education and not of politics. And if we approach the question as I submit it should be approached, what have we done to equip the people for the struggle for existence, what have we done to bring hope into the homes of the thousands of our poorer middle classes, for whom the uncertainties of to-morrow are even more fearful than the sufferings of to-day? We talk glibly of agriculture and of return to the land; but apart from the difficulty of finding suitable lands, could the middle classes here or anywhere else in the world compete with the manual labour of actual cultivators, with their special inheritance of centuries of work in the fields, or would they be able to compete with artisans where families, men, women and children are engaged in their handiwork? My Lord, Germany was an agricultural nation until recently and so was Japan. We must study the methods which these countries have pursued to introduce and develop the spirit of industrialism in their peoples and adapt them to Indian conditions and, in invoking light, we must go to other prophets than those bred on the soil of India. What we want is not more directors and inspectors for the supervision or suppression of existing institutions, but schools which will teach our boys industries suited to India and how to develop them, not as if we had the wealth and organisation of the West, but according to our humble resources and materials. We want our boys to be earners of bread and not to be mere on-lookers on stores which they may not touch. Apart from politics, just as you cannot stop a starving man from breaking into a provision shop, religion or law notwithstanding, you cannot stop mental ferment when there is something radically wrong in a system which only teaches our young men to read and write and nothing more. I see no indication in our Budget of any real move in this direction. A committee of experts composed partly of those who have the knowledge as to how these problems have been solved outside India would be of great value to the people. Whatever may be the character of the controversy over the question of Secondary Education, there is no question about Primary Education and the disappearance of nearly 500 primary schools and 30,000 pupils is a matter for serious consideration; especially, as it is in these schools that the number of Muhammadan boys has any real relation to the numerical position which they hold in the general population. Various causes have been assigned for this decrease in primary schools, none of which is satisfactory. I believe it is the insistence on a more expensive type of primary schools that has led to this result. We must bear in mind that these schools are meant essentially for the very poor, and if

we cannot find means to support these schools, can we not afford to avoid improving them out of existence?

From Education to Jail is not a violent transition, if all that the Administrative Committee has reported is accepted. I understand that, at present, juvenile offenders are taken to the new juvenile ward direct from Alipore and Sealdah. I hope this arrangement may be extended to Calcutta. It is a matter of sincere gratification that juvenile offenders are taught useful handiwork in the juvenile jail at Alipore; but there is no provision under which the careers of these offenders subsequent to their release are watched or guided. Once in jail, it is difficult to find agreeable employment outside it, and this question of providing work for released convicts, who are trained inside the jail is one which demands serious attention. In my mills I have had from time to time taken about 500 boys from the Alipore Reformatory School; but my expectations were not realized. These boys left the mills as soon as their term expired; and though I built separate special quarters for them to make them as comfortable as possible they never put in appearance again.

I would call special attention to the high death-rates in some of the jails, viz., 51·7 per mille in Burdwan, 59·9 per mille in Barisal, 83·6 per mille in Howrah; and while dealing with this subject, I would call earnest attention to the want of arrangements for segregation and separate treatment of consumptives. It is a pity that this want should continue.

My Lord, it is not an easy matter to speak of the Police. That they are doing their duties under circumstances of exceptional difficulties, only a heartless man will deny. The training schools have given us a better type of men; but there cannot be an efficient police, unless there is frank co-operation between the public and the police, and this cannot be secured until the latter realize that they are the servants of the public and not their masters, that their general behaviour towards the public should be marked by courtesy and consideration and not by bullying and intimidation. Whatever the training schools may teach, nothing is more essential to a police officer than good manners, and good breeding, willingness to help and abstention from needless interference.

My Lord, there is a marked increase of expenditure in the Criminal Investigation Department. I know that under the peculiar circumstances of the times this cannot be helped, and so long as assassinations and dacoities are resorted to by youths who should know better, the expenditure on this head cannot be justly curtailed. It is said that amongst these criminals are young men of good birth and social position. But do they realize the essential cowardice involved in killing an unsuspecting man even if he were an enemy, and that it is opposed to all religion and every dictate of morality and humanity? Has ever any nation risen on the soiled and slippery steps of crime? This is what I so earnestly wish they could realize in the very interests of the motherland.

My Lord, the community to which I have the honour to belong, is unfortunately a poor community and for want of educational facilities is necessarily lagging behind. We are grateful to Government for the encouragement it is giving to Muhammadan education; but it will not be right to solve the problem in the way in which it has been solved for the other communities in India. For the great masses of our people, agriculturists or working men, we do not want any elaborate system of literary education. We want schools where particular classes of our people may be trained in arts and crafts for which they may have already shown some aptitude. Our weavers, our porters, our other craftsmen will be all the better, if they are taught the elementary principles of the work in which they are employed, if for them it could be raised from mere manual handling to a conscious process

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of the brain. It requires great forethought and care, for we must preserve the inborn artistic sense and not petrify it into wooden moulds. There is good material at our disposal, if only we could utilise it. The Muhammadans of the maritime parts of Bengal have proved their capability as reliable and intrepid sailors. Must they for ever remain the ignorant serangs that their forefathers were? A school in Chittagong for teaching them the elements of the art of navigation will not be a useless investment, when the Government of India will have a navy of its own. Muhammadan youths have been good mechanics, good joiners, abstemious and sober, and if their difficulties, principally of means, could be overcome by giving them special facilities for technical training, the community, as a whole, would greatly profit. This aspect of Muhammadan education, I hope, will not be overlooked.

Then, my Lord, my community is not adequately represented in the public services of the Province. I am not one of those who would train our youths simply for Government service; but circumstanced as we are in Bengal, I confess it gives our youths an honourable career, it makes our further advance socially and politically more possible and supplies the elements of self-respect and self-dependence. The future of this province, where the Hindus and Muhammadans are nearly equal in number, very much depends on their mutual co-operation and good understanding, and that can only be possible when the two great communities stand on an equal level. To this end, I hope both Hindus and Muhammadans will cheerfully work. And, my Lord, while I am on this subject and before I conclude, it is well to point out that the time has come when the position of the Muhammadan community on the District Boards and Municipalities should be considered and defined. The municipal elections, lately held in Calcutta, have resulted in the return of not a single Muhammadan candidate. It may have been our fault; but surely our Hindu fellow citizens could very well have exercised some self-restraint to allow some of the Muhammadan candidates to be returned for wards largely composed of Muhammadan residents. My Lord, it is not now the time for me to say anything about special electorates.

My Lord, there is one other question to which I should like to briefly refer. Indian manufacturers are suffering from want of materials and ingredients. I cannot ask the Government to come to their help, for I know the Government are powerless in this matter. But, my Lord, without entering into trade or business, the Government can help them in many other ways, if they have a real Commercial Bureau, where people desirous of starting industries for which there may be a reasonable opening, can get all the information they want. It is not possible for Government to be in a position to give information on every conceivable subject, but it may, however, take up the question of some industries which they think may be profitably started in India and place information regarding them before the public. Such information may fall on deaf ears for some time; but if the way could be shown towards starting industries on a commercial basis, capital will not be lacking in Bengal.

My Lord, the year we have entered upon will necessarily be a strenuous one. But the special aspect of it to which I wish to invite the attention of Your Excellency's Government is the awkward situation of my community in India, in the present war. I feel we are here to help the Government: not to deceive it. Therefore, I have not the least hesitation in assuring the Government that no Muhammadan can contemplate without emotion the breaking up of the Ottoman Empire. Its great traditions and past achievements are a heritage of which the Muhammadans are proud. I think I need not say that such members of the Muhammadan community, who advertised that they had no sympathy with Turkey in the present crisis, vainly tried to deceive the Government and underrated their intelligence and judgment. But I can, with equal force, assure the Government that all Indian Muhammadans most deeply

deplore the rupture of the old, old friendship between Turkey and Great Britain. I am here intentionally avoiding the question of the loyalty of the Muhammadans of India to the British Throne; for the simple reason that it must not and cannot be questioned. However, our only hope is that the Muhammadans of India, who form no inconsiderable part of the Muhammadan population of the world, will be enabled to rekindle the light which the Muhammadan universities of old had lighted. In that we ask the help of our Government and their support, and I am sure we will not be disappointed."

The Hon'ble Mr. CHAKRAVARTI said :—

"My Lord,

I shall confine myself to two or three topics for purposes of my criticism. I have held and I still hold that, as long as there is this struggle going on with the external enemy, it does not serve any useful purpose to criticise the internal administration, except where the questions are of such paramount importance that they require immediate attention on the part of your Excellency's Government. There is one matter to which allusion has been made by several Hon'ble Members, and to which I desire to draw your Excellency's attention specially. I am told that during the last two months of last year, that is November and December 1914, in the district of Nadia, the number of deaths from malarial fever amounted to the appalling figure of 23,000. Whatever may be the theory in regard to the causation of malarial fever—as to whether it is to be attributed to anophelis or any other kind of animal or stagnation of water in the sub-soil. I do not pretend to have any scientific knowledge of the subject so as to be able to offer any useful suggestions as to the method to be employed. I take the fact as it is, that in one district, Nadia, during the months of November and December last the number of deaths from malarial fever amounted to 23,000. But there is one thing which was noticed by the man in the street in Nadia, and it was this that people who had a short distance to go for their drinking water from the Jellingi suffered far less from malarial fever than those people who were away from the Jellingi and who had to depend upon water drawn from tanks, wells, etc. It seems to me that it may, after all, be a question of the supply of good drinking water; but, however that may be, I find no solution at all, except that I may congratulate my friend the Hon'ble Nawab Shamsul Huda with regard to the possession of a sanitary officer for the town of Krishnagar. This gentelman has found his office regarding sanitary duties a sinecure because he tells me that he has no funds with which to help the people at all. There is a little small-pox in the town—imported cases from Calcutta—he says he can do nothing, he is absolutely helpless. On the other hand, I found him rather social and agreeable when I met him at a garden party on Saturday evening, and he was particularly conspicuous as a social human being, but so far as any useful work in the Department in which he has been employed is concerned, the ambitious programme which my friend outlined while introducing the Bill has not been given effect to. We have the Sanitary officer, but he apparently has plenty of time to attend garden parties and he has not been able to prevent 23,000 people dying in the course of two months.

Then, as regards the question of economic distress, I entirely agree with my friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji that there are two classes who have been very hard hit, but at the same time I congratulate the Finance Member of your Excellency's Government that the finances taken as a whole under the conditions of this year are remarkably good for the province. One would have thought that, regard being had to the conditions under which we are living this year, there would have been a larger dislocation of business and greater financial distress in the province, but your Excellency's Government and the Finance Member have to be

congratulated that the dislocation in the financial affairs of the province ha been very limited.

The two classes of people, viz., the landlord and raiyat, have been ver hard bit. Whether rightly or wrongly, during the last ten years or so, th staple crop in the country was jute, and the raiyat, either because he i more greedy than other human beings, or just because he is as greedy, too to translation of paddy lands into jute lands; he had bumper crops whic fetched very high prices from Rs. 7 to Rs. 14 and he thought that he ha only to shake the jute plant, and gold would fall. He did get gold for some tim and he fattened on that, but the experience of this year has taught him a lesson which I hope he will take to heart, and he would not in future be s sanguine and will keep a medium between paddy lands and jute lands Probably there will be a contraction in the area of jute cultivation this yea but I do not at all look upon that with any degree of apprehension. On th other hand, I look at it with a certain degree of approbation and congratula tion that the raiyat may be led to divert a certain portion of his jute int paddy lands."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI interrupting said "I did not express any regret at all; in fact, my sympathies are just the othe way."

The Hon'ble MR. CHAKRAVARTI continuing said: "I am very glad t hear that, because in point of fact we have to sell jute for export, practicall he whole of it, retaining a very small percentage for the supply of the jut mills locally. When there is distress you cannot eat jute; on the other hand rice is certainly a commodity which will sustain human beings. I am very glad to find that I was mistaken with regard to the remarks made b he Hon'ble Mr. Banerji.

What has been the result of all this? The tenant has not been able t pay the landlord his rent, but the landlord has to pay the Government revenu and other public demands. I do not think that anybody knows the difficult which the landlord had on the last date of payment, *i.e.*, the 29th of Marc his year, with regard to the payment of Government revenue and other publi demands. I venture to think that almost all had the same difficulty. I d not know whether my friend the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha has had th same experience, but I am speaking from knowledge in connection with th association to which I belong, that almost all landlords had to supplement th ocal collections with money drawn either from banks or from money-lenders, f he purpose of paying road cess and public works cess on the 28th of Marc What the position will be in future I do not know, because there is anothe ist in June, and one knows from experience that, at this time of the yea here is hardly any crop on which people can make collections and the positio of the landlords will be very much worse, and the position of the raiyat i ikely to be very distressful at the time he approaches the early paddy cro which he would not get before July or August next. That is one of th hings which Government will have to attend to later on.

There is a remark which has been made by the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha with which I am in complete accord, and if I may be permitted to mak a suggestion, with regard to the survey and settlement operations, that, if it i possible—I do not wish in any way to interfere with the regular arrangement of the survey—to stay the hands of the Government this year, at all event till the financial prospects of the tenants and landlords are brighter. I have no doubt that Government will consider the desirability of doing so.

I now pass from the comments which have been made in connectio with the amounts which have been held over simply for this reason, that owing to the war we have to postpone everything and after the war i

successfully over, we may quarrel as much as we like. At the end of the war we will quarrel as much as we like and nobody will ever give me the credit, nobody has ever given me the credit, that I am not a pugnacious creature. Under these circumstances when the time comes we will fight, but at the present moment let us bury the hatchet and let us think of the immediate surroundings of our life.

There is one matter and I press Your Excellency's Government regarding it. It is a small matter, only a question of Rs. 21,000 in connection with the sanctioned increase in the pay of the Munsifs. A number of speakers have alluded to this subject, and I can assure Your Excellency's Government that it is a very hard thing for the officers getting only a pay of Rs. 200—that on account of the rise in the price of commodities and various other necessaries it is very, very hard indeed for them to make both ends meet. If it be possible for Government to give effect to this measure, it would be a great benefit indeed to this deserving class.

I pass on to a remark which has been made by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur with regard to the employment of Mr. Swan. I have nothing but to congratulate the Government upon the employment of that officer because from the nature of things it is absolutely impossible that in a very short time you will be able either to start new industries or to revive dead ones—it is not in the nature of things that you can do so—but I have not the slightest doubt that Mr. Swan will be able to collect very useful information which will be not only of importance to Government later on, but, when published, will be of great assistance to practical industrial people, to commercial people and to the general community. As regards the question of Government subsidising or helping or patronizing private industries, it may be that my education in political economy has somewhat disqualified me to express my opinion. I have always been against the diversion of taxes raised from the general public for the purpose of devoting to, and fostering of, industries. It is possible on account of the difficulties in which we are placed that some of the industries may be fostered by Government grants. I am assured by a very high authority that an experiment was made in connection with the aluminium industry in Madras and with great success. Government started the industry, made it successful and then passed it on to a body of private individuals. In the same way it is possible that Government may be able to do something in connection with the growth of industries of this kind. With these few remarks I resume my seat."

The Hon'ble MR. HORNELL said :—

"MY LORD,

Education has, as usual, proved to be the popular item of the programme, but I doubt whether I should be popular, if at this hour of the afternoon I took up the time of the Council by saying all that I should like to say with reference to various educational problems or even all which has been suggested by the remarks which have been made at this meeting.

The great criticism which has been levelled against the efficiency of the Education Department is that we are always crying out for more money and that when we get it we cannot spend it. A dreadful picture has been drawn of the Department gazing impotently on the piles of money, which it is too feeble to spend, while all around the need is clamant. Well, I want first of all to remind our critics that the Imperial grants which have been made to us are of two kinds—capital and recurring. Last year I mentioned some of the difficulties in the way of the rapid spending of capital grants. The amounts available are not adequate to the demands. Consequently, we have had first of all to select projects; then sites had to be selected and

Mr. Hornell

plans and estimates drawn up and approved. What a business all this is, any one who could see some of the files in my office would realise. As regards construction works, which have to be carried out through the agency of the Public Works Department, we have to remember that the Education Department is not the only Department whose demands the Public Works Department, etc., have to try to satisfy. During the last few years every Department has been putting forward large building programmes and the Public Works Department cannot, I understand, work miracles.

As regards recurring grants, when they were sanctioned first, it was not possible to spend them in full, because we had to work out schemes and get them sanctioned; but as regards these grants, there will be no difficulty in spending the money in future, for schemes have now been formulated and we can assign any anticipated savings to capital projects.

At this stage I am afraid I must go into some detail, for there has been a certain amount of misapprehension owing to the figures in the budget not having been understood.

The Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji referred to page 53 of the budget. Under the head "Budget estimate for 1915-16" there appears on that page a sum of Rs. 2,800 for lower primary schools for boys. Mr. Banerji said that he presumed that this amount was so small, because the main channel for the support of primary schools was the District Boards; but then he went on to refer to the figure shown on page 54 under the head "Budget estimate for 1915-16" against the side heading "Payments in support of local schools under District Boards" and asked why, when the revised estimate for 1914-15 was Rs. 10,76,000, the provision for 1915-16 should be Rs. 2,88,960 only. Mr. Banerji is right in assuming that the main channel for the support of primary schools is the District Boards, but the discrepancy between the figures of 1914-15 and 1915-16 to which he refers is due to the fact that, whereas the revised estimate for 1914-15 includes the Imperial grants, the budget provision of Rs. 2,88,960 for the year 1915-16 does not include them. If he desires to compare the figure shown under the budget estimates for 1915-16 with the corresponding figure for 1914-15, he should have compared the figure 2,88,960 with the figure 2,88,560. In other words, the position is this: The amount from provincial revenues available for primary schools during the year 1915-16 is Rs. 400 in advance of the amount available during 1914-15. All the Imperial recurring grants have been made available. Consequently, the amount available for primary schools for 1915-16 will be certainly not less, and probably a little more, than the amount available during 1914-15.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray refers to savings to the extent of Rs. 99,75,000 on the expenditure side of the budget for 1914-15, of which no less than Rs. 61,70,000 are according to him due to savings on education. The Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji has said something to the same effect. The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Hussain referred to the expenditure of the Imperial recurring grant of Rs. 25,20,000, the omission of which from the head "Revised estimate for 1914-15" led the Hon'ble gentleman to assume that no money was spent during that year under that head. I admit that the position is a little complicated. The sum of Rs. 25,20,000 to which the Hon'ble Member refers is made up of the original Imperial recurring assignment of Rs. 13,20,000 plus Rs. 12,00,000 reallotted as the unspent balance of the same recurring grant assigned for the previous year, the reallotted portion being available for expenses on capital projects only. It was of course very regrettable that more of this particular Imperial recurring grant could not be spent during the financial year 1913-14, but schemes had to be worked out and sanctioned before the grant could be utilized. As regards the provision of Rs. 25,20,000 made

in the budget for last year, I am glad to be able to inform the Hon'bl Member that we spent out of this sum not less than Rs. 10,48,016, an a scrutiny of the figures which I shall be very happy to show to m Hon'ble friend will indicate that the chief reason why we did not succee in spending considerably more was that the provision includes th annual grant of Rs. 5,00,000 to the Dacca University, a scheme which ha not yet been found possible to inaugurate. The amount of Rs. 13,20,00 provided in the budget for the current year represents of course the recu ring grant, assigned to 1915-16, the unspent balances of previous years n having been made available. I can assure the Hon'ble Member that we shal have no difficulty in spending the greater portion of this amount durin the current financial year. Schemes of recurring expenditure are now i process of adoption and anticipated savings can be spent on capital projects.

Before leaving the criticisms of my Hon'ble friend the Maulvi on th financial administration of the Education Department, I must allude briefly t his statement that the Education budget for the year provides for a tot expenditure of Rs. 95,67,000, with thirty lakhs of which he seems to thin the Education Department can do anything they like. I wish we could. am not quite sure how the Hon'ble Member arrived at the thirty lakhs figur He seems to have taken the provision of Rs. 30,00,000 provided in the budg for 1914-15 as the portion made available for the year from the Imperi Capital assignment of Rs. 75,00,000 and supposes that the whole of this 3 lakhs is still available and can be spent on anything we like even though th amount has not been regranted in the current year's Education budget. wish the Hon'ble Member's view was correct. A certain portion of last year provision of Rs. 30,00,000 was spent and what remains is unfortunately n within the discretion of the Education Department to do what it likes wit The whole amount has been assigned to various purposes and is required f them.

It is not, I regret to say, possible to find the money for the Muhammada Arts College from this Imperial assignment. I share the Hon'ble Member regret at the postponement of the scheme for the Muhammadan Arts Colle in Calcutta, but I think that he can rest assured that so long as the prese Hon'ble Member is in charge of Muhammadan education an opportunity f materialising the project will not be missed.

I turn to the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray's criticism. In the fir place, the figure of Rs. 61,17,000 which he quotes is a little misleading. Th provision made for expenses on education in 1914-15 was Rs. 1,45,43,00 When the draft financial statement for that year was being prepared, it w calculated on the basis of expenditure actually incurred during the first nin months of the year that Rs. 83,73,000 would be spent. This estimate w subsequently increased by the Financial Department to Rs. 85,23,000. Th Hon'ble Member has taken the difference between Rs. 1,45,43,000 a Rs. 83,73,000 as the savings. As a fact we actually spent in the course the financial year 1914-15 a considerable portion of the amounts provided und the head "Imperial grants both recurring and non-recurring." This expen ture does not appear in the budget against the various heads of Imperi grants. The total amount spent from the Imperial grants, both recurring a non-recurring, I calculate to have been about 37 lakhs. Of this amount a su of Rs. 20,32,000 is included in the figure shown in the revised column of th budget for 1914-15. To this sum must be added a sum of Rs. 16,64,00 which was spent during 1914-15 on educational buildings through the agen of the Public Works Department. This brings the total expenditure duri 1914-15 to Rs. 1,01,87,000 and reduces the savings to Rs. 43,56,000. Th last figure includes the sum of Rs. 23,00,000 provided for the Dac University; so that the amount which we have not been able to spend out the allotments from public revenues assigned to educational projects oth

than the Dacca University scheme does not in fact amount to more than al Rs. 20,00,000 or £1,37,000. Not a very large balance to have in h considering the vastness of our undertakings!

I should like to say here for the information especially of the Hon Nawab Syed Nawab Ali Chaudhury that we are doing our best to inaugu the Dacca University scheme. It is proving a tough job, but it is being neglected.

Of course it is very regrettable that when our needs are so great we sho not be able to spend more expeditiously the money placed at our disposal the Imperial Government. So far as the Education Department is responsil I accept the responsibility and deplore the delay, and this brings me to cert remarks which have been made with reference to the directing and inspect agencies of the Education Department. One Hon'ble Member has said th there is too much inspection. Another Hon'ble Member who is more pol said that though he recognised the value and even the necessity of inspect and direction he cannot but feel that it would be better, if we had more insti tions to inspect. Of course we are very badly in need of money in sp of the balances to which I have just alluded, and it is very desirable a necessary that we should not over-increase our establishment, but I venti to remind the House that officers of the inspecting agency have a great de more to do than to inspect educational institutions and that the office of the directing agency have unfortunately a great deal more to than merely to pass orders on such inspection reports. The inspecti and directing officers of the Education Department carry on, with t assistance of the officers of the executive and others, the administration education, so far as that depends on departmental agencies. The system centralised. Whether the system can be improved or not is a matter whi is entirely beyond the scope of this speech, but what I desire to impress Hon'ble Members is, that unless we have an adequate and efficient directi and inspecting staff, the delay in maturing the schemes and getting the wo carried out will be greater than ever. The officers of my Department are hard worked as any in India. They do their best; they cannot perfor impossibilities.

I gather from what is sometimes said and written on the subject primary education that there is a feeling that we spend a great deal too mu on inspectors and far too little on schools. A picture is painted of a numb of well-paid and underworked inspecting officers wandering luxuriously roun an inadequate number of half-starved schools. I think that if those who wri and say these things would accompany some of my inspecting officers on th tours, they might perhaps be willing to revise their estimate of the gener position. After all, to concentrate for a moment on primary educatio what is a primary school in Bengal? It is not, I am sorry to say, usual an institution accommodated in a suitable building and staffed l effective teachers. Such an institution would at least go on without th inspecting ministrations of sub-inspectors. A primary school in Bengal as a rule a teacher who collects a few pupils round him and every on who knows anything about it at all knows perfectly well that th progress of primary education in a district depends almost entirely o the inspecting and administrative officers of that district. If the Deput Inspector is a keen man, if he takes the trouble to find out *pandit* to encourage them to teach, to see that the stipends are easily mad available for them and are regularly paid, then the number of childre under primary instruction increases. Without such an officer it invariabl goes back.

As regards primary education as a whole, I desire to say that I a profoundly dissatisfied with the present state of affairs. From what I hav myself seen in the course of my visits to primary schools, and from statistic

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I am exceedingly doubtful whether the primary school system in Bengal is performing the function that it should be performing. I am exceedingly anxious that the whole system should be overhauled, and by way of instituting an effective enquiry I have put on two of my best officers to study the conditions in certain areas. What they have been told is to survey the problem of that area and to put forward practical proposals. These proposals will probably go at a later stage before a large committee which I shall ask Government to appoint to consider the whole question.

I admit that things are not right and I appeal to the representative members of the Bengali community to help Government to put them right. No good will come of repeating criticisms which are based on falsehoods. It is always being represented that the Education Department has closed primary schools by raising the standard in a quite unreasonable way. What, it has been asked, is the use of spending money on establishing Board lower primary schools when the establishment of one such means the closing of a number of private schools? It is true that we have spent some of the Imperial money on Board primary schools. I can say from my personal observation that these schools have been a great success. They have been a great success because they have formed, as it were, permanent centres of primary instruction, of a standard of general efficiency which is comparatively speaking high. These schools are attended by a considerable number of children. The result is that the *pandits* and *maulvis* who teach in them get a reasonably adequate remuneration for their work, partly by stipends and partly by fees. Consequently, they take some pride in their work and try and do it well. What is the condition of primary education in those parts of the Presidency in which there are still practically no Board lower primary schools, for example, the Burdwan Division? There primary education is imparted by a number of *pandits* whose total receipts from all sources do not exceed on an average more than Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 a month. On such a basis how can you expect your primary instruction to be anything but uncertain and transitory? The work of such men is bound to be very largely worthless. We have not refused to grant them stipends. We quite realise that something is better than nothing, but it is beyond the power of anyone to retain the permanent services of a set of teachers who earn far less than an ordinary *cooly*.

I do not think that the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray was fair when he said that Government was doing nothing for private secondary schools. We have two Imperial recurring grants, one of Rs. 1,50,000 and the other of Rs. 2,26,000. The whole of the grant of Rs. 1,50,000 is being spent and a good part of the grant of Rs. 2,26,000 will be spent, on giving additional grants-in-aid to secondary schools. Some schools have not received the additional grants which were available for them, because we have in every case made the payment of the additional grant conditional on the employment of a more efficient and better remunerated staff of teachers. I repeat what I said last year that these grants are merely a drop in the ocean of secondary schools in this Presidency. As long ago as 1908 it was estimated that it would cost from 15 to 16 lakhs to put secondary schools in the then province of Bengal on anything approaching a satisfactory basis. We have now less than three lakhs and a half; the number of schools has considerably increased. And yet people are surprised because every school does not get what it wants!

I now desire to say something about the Hastings House School. As was natural there has been a good deal of misunderstanding about this project. The scheme has been a great deal criticised. Most of the criticisms were based on ideas which were evolved from the consciousness of those witty persons who write in newspapers. The facts are perfectly simple and straightforward. It is years since the Government of Bengal was first asked to establish a residential school for those who desire for their sons an

education on somewhat different lines from those on which the education in the ordinary high school is conducted. Various proposals were put forward and discussed at great length. Some thought that the school should be at Ranchi, others that it should in the Himalayas. Last year two or three practical Bengali gentlemen of position came to Government and said. This discussion is all very well, but our boys are growing up. Why should not Government start a school on a temporary and provisional basis?' It seemed to me both a sensible and a reasonable proposal. So with the consent of Government I and two of these gentlemen set out one morning in a motor-car to see whether we could find suitable premises in which the school could be started. More or less by accident we passed Hastings House. One of the gentlemen said, 'It is just the place.' I agreed to approach the Government of Bengal who subsequently asked the Government of India to lend us Hastings House for the purpose of the school. The Government of India consented. The Hon'ble Mr. Faz-ul-Haq has referred to the *lakhs* of rupees which Government has poured into this venture. As a fact we have the use of Hastings House for nothing and the whole capital expenditure which has been incurred has been confined to the installation of a modern sanitary system and to the furnishing and equipment of the buildings. The scheme is admittedly a temporary and provisional one. If it succeeds, it will doubtless lead to the establishment in buildings of its own of a permanent school to which the wealthy men of Bengal will contribute liberally. In the meanwhile all that Government has undertaken to do is to finance the school on a temporary basis within the limits of a financial guarantee from certain gentlemen interested in the scheme. School fees will be charged at the rate of Rs. 100 for boarders and Rs. 25 for day scholars. The greater part of the recurring cost of the school will be covered by the fee receipts. The school is not merely intended for the wealthy. It is intended to meet the needs of those who want for their boys a training which the ordinary high school does not in their opinion provide, and who cannot obtain what they want without the co-operation and assistance of Government.

Dr. Nilratan Sarkar has mentioned sanitary education. We had a capital grant from the Government of India for this and a committee has been sitting. Their report is on its way to Government. This report deals with text-books and the question how much can be done in schools in the matter of instruction in sanitation.

It remains to say a few words about that vexed question 'the education of Moslems.' My friend the Hon'ble Mr. Haq (for he really is my friend in spite of the fearful things he says about the Education Department; he always greets me with a smile; I suppose that he is thinking of the next budget debate) has drawn a harrowing picture of a neglected community suffering in silence. However, I do not think that things are quite as bad as he makes out. He has represented himself as repeating hopelessly year after year the same list of grievances and needs. Well, I do not suppose that next year's list will be any shorter, but I hope that he will be able to introduce a little variety into it. For example, there is the question of the extension of the Baker Madrassah Hostel. The Hon'ble Mr. Fazl-ul-Haq says, 'Why Rs. 91,000 was set aside for this project years ago, the amount is still available but nothing is done.' I am glad to be able to inform him not only that the sum of Rs. 91,000 is available but that two *lakhs* of rupees are available. The fact that this assignment has been made is solely due to the personal efforts made by the Hon'ble Member in charge of Muhammadan Education. There has been delay in connexion with this scheme. As a rule no one chafes more than I do at delay. This particular delay I do not regret in the least. The original scheme has been very greatly improved and we shall now be able to take up a great deal more land and make a very much better job of it. The project has been administratively approved at an estimated cost of more than the double amount originally allotted. As I have said already, two

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lakhs are immediately available. The work will be taken up as soon as possible. I am sure that when the Hon'ble Member sees the new scheme realised he will admit that in this matter we have not done so badly.

Then there is the old grievance about the hostel in College Square. I dealt with this matter in the meeting of the Council which was held at Dacca. I then said that I could not recommend that Government should start a Muhammadan College on a temporary basis and in hired premises, but that if the chief difficulty of Moslem students was a lack of hostel accommodation, I did not see why a hostel in the neighbourhood of College Square should not be started. Here, again, we have been told that nothing whatever has been done. As a fact I instructed Mr. Taylor some months ago to try and find a suitable house, and he told me this morning that he had found one. I propose with the permission of Government to take this house and I hope before the beginning of the next session this hostel will be opened.

Then we have been taken to task about the Muhammadan Arts College in Calcutta. Here, again, though a man of great humility, I am not altogether prepared to say that I have sinned, in that I have done nothing. When I looked into this matter some 18 months ago I found that not only had nothing been worked out but also that a considerable number of influential persons were opposed to the scheme. I was not opposed to the scheme. So I set myself to work out a plan for carrying it into effect. The scheme has now been worked out and submitted to Government. It is an expensive one, but this unfortunately cannot be avoided. The money not being immediately available it has been found impossible to take up the whole scheme at once. The scheme involves the removal of the Anglo-Persian School from its present location in the Madrassah buildings. I need scarcely remind the Council that suitable sites for schools in the neighbourhood of Wellesley Square are not very easy to obtain. There happened to be a piece of vacant land in Wellesley Street which was obviously well suited for a new Anglo-Persian School. Having then some funds at our disposal we acquired this land and now we are blamed for not having carried out excavations on it. This, I venture to think, is a little hard. Surely it is something to have acquired the land on which to locate a new school when funds for building it are available. Personally, I should prefer a piece of land and no building to no land and no building. If we had not taken up this land we might subsequently have found ourselves in the position of having the money for carrying out the scheme, but not being able to proceed with it, simply because there was no place to which the Anglo-Persian School could be moved.

One word in conclusion with reference to that most troublesome topic—I refer to the construction of certain college hostels in Calcutta. I cannot take up the time of the Council by going into detail with reference to this scheme. Originally, my predecessor advised Government to build certain hostels for certain colleges on condition that those colleges provided the sites. The colleges were unable to find sites, and after an immense amount of delay some of the institutions concerned came forward and asked us to find the sites and build the buildings and in fact to do every thing for them.

The City College undertook to find a site and to build a hostel with the help of the Government grant. They have obtained a permanent lease of a site, but now the Government Solicitor refuses to recognise this as providing a good security for the grant. Some of the schemes are now fairly well advanced, but the money to carry them on will not be available this year. The eight lakhs Imperial capital grant to which the Hon'ble Mr. S. N. Banarji referred has to cover the whole of the capital expenditure which we incur from the Imperial grants during the current year. I understand, however, that the Government of India has granted an additional ten lakhs to the

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University of Calcutta for the purpose of hostels. The fact that these schemes have been hanging on so long is a source of perpetual annoyance to me. The Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray expressed the hope that I would be willing to co-operate with the University in working out a satisfactory hostel scheme to Calcutta. I assure him that I shall only be too glad to do so, and I feel that, if the University and the Education Department can work together in this matter, we may in the course of the current year, effect something.

The Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor said something about the desirability of increasing the number of M.A. and M.Sc. classes attached to Government colleges in the mufassal. A good many schemes of University Education are now on the anvil and I should have thought that this was scarcely the time for increasing the number of post-graduate classes. Some specific proposals in this connexion are now under consideration, and I hope that the discussion of these proposals will ultimately help us to contribute towards the satisfactory solution of the problem of the reorganisation of University education throughout this Presidency.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

My Lord, the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell has relieved me of the necessity of saying much under the head of Muhammadan Education. I can only assure my Hon'ble friends who have spoken on the subject that it is not for lack of any sympathy that the various schemes referred to by them have not progressed as well as they might have done. As has been pointed out by the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell, the question of the Muhammadan Arts College is one which involves large expenditure, and I cannot say that there is any hope of having that college established at vely early date, until at least our financial difficulties have disappeared. But I think there is no difference of opinion on the necessity of such an institution and I hope that when the money is forthcoming, the Muhammadans will have the satisfaction of having in Calcutta a well equipped college of their own.

As regards the Baker Hostel, the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell has explained the circumstances, and I may only add that if it were a question of Rs. 91,000 only probably there would have been no difficulty, in starting the work earlier but the estimates rose from Rs. 91,000 to Rs. 2,16,000 or something like that, and we are thankful to the Government of India that they have removed the embargo on the grants to the University Institute and the Baker Hostel.

The Hon'ble Nawab Nawab Ali Chaudhuri has made a reference to the money that was promised to the Moslem Institute. As regards that, what has happened is this : the Moslem Institute was going to be part and parcel of the scheme for the Arts College and that scheme is now postponed. This scheme had to be postponed also on that account. But we have not lost the money in this sense that a part of the money allotted to the Baker Hostel has been the amount of Rs. 15,000 that was earmarked for the Moslem Institute. I hope that when the Muhammadans have got their Arts College they will have the institute as a part of that college.

As regards the question of hostels for Muhammadan Law students, I am glad that the Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor of the University has been able to hold out hopes of a solution, and I trust that this grievance will in course of time disappear. For the present, Mr. Hornell has informed the Council that a house has been rented for opening a hostel, and I think this will meet present difficulties.

My Hon'ble friends will also remember that when grants were made to private colleges, for instance, the City College, the Ripon College and the Scottish Churches College for hostel accommodation, it was expressly

stipulated that a part of the hostels will be reserved for Muhammadan students.

Leaving aside the question of the accommodation for Muhammadan students, as to which the Hon'ble Mr. Hornell has said all that was necessary, I come now to the question of sanitation. A great deal of criticism has been levelled at the department under that head and a good deal has been said as regards the non-utilisation of the sanitary grant. I may say that a part of the complaint is based on a misapprehension. What happened is this : When grants made to local bodies were transferred to the head 45—Civil Works, the actuals under the head of sanitation are reduced to that extent. The amount of the decrease of the actuals due to the transfer was in 1912-13, approximately 1½ lakhs ; in 1913-14, 1 lakh ; 1914-15, 3½ lakhs non-recurring and 1 lakh recurring ; in 1913-14 also an amount of 5½ lakhs was distributed among local bodies from the Civil Works budget. It cannot therefore be said that Government have not been fully helping local bodies. I confess we might have done a good deal more, but as a rule when making grants out of sanitation funds, we insist on local bodies bearing a portion of the cost. Previously the practice was to ask local bodies to contribute two-thirds —Government contributing the remaining one-third. We have found from experience that local bodies are not able always to find the two-thirds, and in many instances recently we have raised the proportion from one-third to half, and even in some cases to more. But we have not and I am afraid we cannot—make contributions to local bodies who are not able to contribute a part of the cost. In some cases it has so happened that the finances of local bodies have not been found sufficient to enable them to maintain the waterworks. It has not therefore been for want of funds in recent years, but rather for want of matured schemes and Financial difficulties of local bodies that money has been left unutilised under the head of sanitation.

The Hon'ble Nawab Ali Chaudhuri has referred to the fact that local bodies such as district boards and others insist on the people finding one-third for the excavation of tanks and other purposes before any contribution is made. There is some little misapprehension on that point which I desire to explain. When Government promised to give aid to local bodies to enable them to improve water-supply in rural areas, they insisted on a certain proportion being borne by the people themselves, but now that the whole of the Public Works Cess has been transferred to local bodies there are no hard-and-fast rules existing ; as a matter of fact, even when Government contributed, there was no hard-and-fast rule, although it was generally understood that the contribution of one-third was asked for from local bodies. Now District Boards are perfectly free to spend anything they can afford towards the improvement of water-supply in rural areas, and if they fail to do so it is not the fault of Government. As a matter of fact, District Boards have large surpluses and attention has been drawn in our recent resolution to this fact, and I hope local bodies will now take care to spend larger sums for the improvement of sanitation in the country.

A great deal of criticism has been levelled at the malaria committee Members of this Council who probably do not know much about this committee will be surprised to hear that its greatest critic in this Council is a member of that committee—I refer to my Hon'ble friend Dr. Nilratan Sarkar. The malaria committee is an advisory board, and I do not think my Hon'ble friend can complain that Government have not shown sufficient consideration or respect to any recommendations made by that committee. It has been said by several Hon'ble members that it was very wrong of Government to have refunded the fifty thousand rupees which the Government of India gave in order to carry out experiments in jungle cutting. My Hon'ble friend Dr. Sarkar is himself an expert and we are all at the mercy•

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of experts. The malaria committee advised us that they could not usefully spend the money, and we had to accept that advice. But if that advice was wrong Dr. Sarkar could have influenced his colleagues to give us the right advice upon which to act.

As regards the Sanitary Board, suggestions have been made for its improvement. It has been suggested that the number of non-official representatives on the Board should be increased, that its functions should be enlarged, and that its deliberations should be made public. As regards these suggestions it is enough to say that the Sanitary Board was only recently reconstituted, and that we have not seen enough of its work to justify us to make a change, but the suggestions made by my Hon'ble friend, Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee, as regards making its deliberations public, will receive consideration. I may point out that the Sanitary Board is an Advisory Board and nothing turns upon what it says, until Government has accepted its advice. Incidentally the Hon'ble Mr. Banarji referred to the scheme for water-supply, of Riparian municipalities, near Calcutta and he said that the municipalities concerned know nothing of what is going on I may assure my Hon'ble friend that nothing will be done without consulting the municipalities which are concerned in the scheme.

Fault has been found with Government for not doing all that could be done, in order to eradicate malaria from the country. My friend the Hon'ble Dr. Nilratan Sarkar has given us certain instances of Government efforts, and suggested that this was all that the Government had done. I do not think it is quite correct. It is not correct that we have been satisfied with merely supplying quinine to municipalities, but the whole of our sanitary grant for the improvement of water-supply and drainage is intended to improve the sanitation of the country, and they ought all to be considered as anti-malarial measures of great importance. So far as the supply of quinine goes, not only do Government sell quinine at cheap rates, but whenever a municipality has been unable to supply sufficient quinine to hospitals, and have applied to Government for help, we have seldom refused such help. In every case where we have found municipalities are not in a position to pay, we have helped them. I think the Government have done a great deal more than my Hon'ble friends are prepared to give us credit for.

The Hon'ble Mr. Banarji complained that the ferry fund has been diverted from its legitimate purpose. This is a misapprehension. The ferry fund was always considered as a provincial asset, and as a matter of fact, about 20 years ago, the Government of India said of this fund as follows: 'The ferry receipts in Bengal have up to the present time gone into the common account of the province; they are part of the general revenue assigned to the province by the Government of India in the provincial contract, and there is not the slightest reason for regarding them in any way especially claimable by the District Boards from the Provincial Government'. So that even if Government took every pice of the ferry receipts, it could not be said that the funds had been diverted from their proper use, but, as a matter of fact, a certain portion of the receipts from some ferries, though not all, have been made over to the district boards as part of the compensation given for the expenditure on education and medical.

The Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad expressed a hope in his speech that the money which has been withdrawn from the sanitary grant should not lapse. He suggested that the unexpended balance of the Imperial grant, reserved or restricted this year, should be held to the credit of this Government to be drawn upon whenever a favourable atmosphere was re-established. My Hon'ble friend will be glad to know that the unexpended balances of the Imperial grant will not lapse, they are only suspended, and will be available for their general purposes, as soon

as the return to normal conditions allow us to draw again upon our provincial balances.

The Hon'ble Mr. Ariff has referred to the municipal elections, and to the fact that very few Muhammadans have been returned from Calcutta—as a matter of fact no one was returned at the last election. This is a question which is not new. It has been carefully considered in connection with the amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act and all public bodies, including the municipalities, have been allowed an opportunity of giving an opinion on that subject. I hope that a solution of it will be found when we introduce our new Municipal Bill. I do not think there is anything else to which I need refer this afternoon."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"MY LORD,

I will only detain the Council for a very few minutes with some remarks regarding hostels for colleges in Calcutta. It is a subject in which, in spite of the accusations to the contrary which have been levelled against us, we take a very practical and real interest. I desire to give some figures to show how extremely difficult it has been to come to a final decision with regard to certain particular hostels. When the committee, to which the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari referred, sat some 4 or 5 years ago, to decide the question of the expenditure of the grant of 5 lakhs for hostels, a certain portion of that grant was allotted, and was spent almost at once. The sum of Rs. 2,86,000 was, however, reserved for the hostels attached to the Ripon College, the Bangabasi College and the Metropolitan Institution, and this sum was divided into Rs. 90,000 allotted for sites, and the rest for buildings. When the acquisition of land was carried out, the sum of Rs. 90,000 rose to Rs. 1,74,000, and this increase, with the estimates which were made for the buildings, raised the total from Rs. 2,86,000 to Rs. 4,21,000. We realised the desirability of building these hostels and made arrangements to provide Rs. 4,21,000. When the matter was, however, gone into still further, the estimate of Rs. 4,21,000 rose to very nearly 6 lakhs. We cannot secure funds for this expenditure immediately, but as soon as we can draw upon our balances we hope to provide this sum of 6 lakhs and we shall then be able to provide this hostel accommodation. In the meantime, we may make a beginning with some of these buildings.

The City College scheme, in the same way, is one for which we are prepared to provide 1½ lakhs as subsidy. But there has been endless trouble between the City College authorities and the owners of the site which they wish to occupy, and it was only during the latter half of March that we were presented with a scheme, which had been prepared with great difficulty, and on the basis of which we were asked to pay out the 1½ lakhs. An examination of that scheme, however, showed that it rested on an unsound financial basis and that the lease which had been entered into was not one of which the Government Solicitor could approve. It was therefore impossible to advance the grant immediately on the basis of that lease. This, however, is a matter of time. The money is there and it will ultimately be handed over. On the general question I may inform the Council that, out of the total sum of 16 lakhs for hostels, we have actually spent 7 lakhs already, and for the rest we have full and complete schemes.

Lastly, as regards the Muhammadan hostel, we hope to erect one in the neighbourhood of College Square. In common with the Muhammadan members of this Council, I listened with the greatest interest and appreciation to the endorsement of their claim made by the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari, Vice-Chancellor of the University. We feel quite confident that that

sympathy will be translated into action when the Hon'ble Member, as V Chancellor, comes to deal with the 10 lakhs recently made over to University for hostels.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHERJI BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord,

I have only to answer two points in the speech of the Hon'ble Ma Musharraf Husain as regards the Registration Department.

The first point referred to is the revision of pay of the ministe establishment in the registration offices. No one regrets the delay more t I do, and ever since I took charge of the department, I have been stea endeavouring to bring about this much-needed improvement in the pay prospects of the clerks and muharrirs of the Registration Department, are paid miserable salaries. Their lot is indeed hard, and needs ameliorat specially as all the other branches in the district offices have been reorgani on the recommendation of the Salaries Reconstitution Committee in East West Bengal. Last year we sent up a scheme costing Rs. 15,610 to Government of India for the reorganization of the headquarters of establishment, but they deferred passing orders on it until they received proposals also for the revision of the mufassal establishments and they asked us to consider the principles of the Bihar and Orissa scheme, wl they had just sanctioned. We have since prepared a complete scheme reorganization for headquarters and mufassal establishments combined wl has been fully examined by the Financial Department of this Government will soon be submitted to the Government of India for approval. The would be Rs. 1,38,670 per annum. As Hon'ble Members are aware, aln every scheme involving recurring expenditure has had to be kept back ow to the present conditions. But we shall have the scheme approved by Government of India and ready for introduction as soon as normal conditi return. But for the war I am sure that some money would have been for introducin at least a portion of the revision this year.

As regards the second point, viz., pensions to Sub-Registrars who w paid by commission before the service was reorganized and they were brou on the pensionable establishment, I beg to refer the Hon'ble Member to observations of the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda made in Council last year. The matter is still before the Royal Commission Public Services in India, whose pronouncement on the question has not been made, but one of the conditions under which the service was reorgani on a pensionable basis was that Sub-Registrars who chose to come under new scheme would not have their services under the commission syst count towards pension. If they objected and their age was above they had the option of remaining on the commission system. The Secret of State sanctioned the scheme on these terms and although there is no do that some hardship is inflicted, we try to mitigate it as far as possible granting them extensions, so as to enable them to complete the term minimum pension. As regards Sub-Registrars still working on the comm sion system, who are not entitled to pension on retirement, they are allowed work up to the age of 60 and even longer if they remain efficient. In so cases they have been allowed to work up to 65 years of age.

The Hon'ble Mr. CUMMING said :—

"My Lord,

I desire to make a few remarks on the subjects which appertain to Jails and Judicial Departments; for I think in regard to these subjects th must be some misapprehension.

Mr. Cumming.

Under the head of Jails, the Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain is concerned because in his belief the amount which has been put aside for the dietary of prisoners has been reduced; and he says, and I think very properly, that this is not a matter in which Government should economise. In fact, however, there has been no economy in the rates of the dietary of prisoners, because there is no officer in the service of Government who is more humane and more considerate to those under his care than the distinguished and senior officer of the Indian Medical Service who is in charge of that Department. What has happened is solely due to the number of prisoners who come under his charge and the price of the commodities. During the last three years, partly on account of the rise in prices and partly on account of the variation in the number of prisoners, the total sum allotted to this head has varied from under 4 lakhs in 1911-12 to nearly 7 lakhs in 1913-14. The amount which is allotted for the current year is 6¼ lakhs against 5 lakhs allotted last year. I can therefore assure the Hon'ble Member that he need have no apprehension on this score.

Under the same head of Jails, the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray had remarked that he would like to see separate cooking arrangements for Hindus and for others. I would refer the Hon'ble Member to the reply given in this Council on the 11th December 1914, when it was said that Government recognised the desirability of having separate arrangements in jails and that provision would be made when kitchens were reconstructed. I need only say that this policy is being followed.

One other remark under this head of Jails, and that is with reference to what Mr. Ariff said, that there should be some expenditure of Government funds on prisoners who are released from jail. I desire to point out that in the West this is a duty which has almost universally been assigned to private philanthropy. There is already an institution on a small scale in Calcutta which was inaugurated through the exertions and humanity of a High Court Judge; and another Hon'ble Judge is now in charge of it. It is as yet on a very small scale; but Government have confidence in it and have afforded to it no small measure of assistance in the purchase of land.

I now turn to the department called the Judicial Department; and under this head I desire to answer the criticism that has been made by no fewer than five Hon'ble Members of this Council regarding the grading of Munsifs. They all urge that it is very hard lines that last year a sum of Rs. 21,000 was put in the budget which has now been excluded, and that their hopes that the Rs. 200 grade would be abolished have been dashed to the ground. It is true that this subject has been before Government during the last four years; it is also true that this Government have made certain recommendations on the subject to the Public Services Commission; and it is also true that Government through the mouth of Sir William Duke said last year that he fully sympathised with the proposed change, and that effect would be given to it. But it has fallen to my lot to inform Hon'ble Members of this Council that Government must at present await the final proposals of the Public Services Commission. That is also the view of the Province to which we were so lately attached, namely, the Province of Bihar and Orissa. There appears to be some misunderstanding as regards the expenditure required; it is alleged that the amount is so small that Government should not grudge to pay it. The answer to that is this, that the matter will not be settled simply by excising one grade from the cadre. Two grades will have to be amalgamated, the 4th and 5th. It is considered that if this change is contemplated, there must be a reorganisation of all the grades; and this will cost not Rs. 21,000 but more than three quarters of a lakh. I would ask therefore the members of the service, for whom I have the greatest sympathy, and who are rather jealous of what they think is the good fortune of the executive service, to wait a little longer and to remember that even now the average pay of a member of

the judicial service is Rs. 378 and the average pay of a provincial executive officer is Rs. 376 ; so that even under the present circumstances they have the advantage. They also have the advantage that a new Rs. 500 grade has been constituted throughout the whole of Bengal.

This now leads me to say something in reply to the criticism which was made under the last head. The question is—Why has Government given allowance to the Police and Civil Services? The facts are quite different from what has been supposed. It is alleged that all the members of the Indian Civil Services have received extra allowances ; this is far from being the case. A time-scale has been fixed by the Secretary of State for officers between three years' and twenty-one years' service. There are however only 21 officers who have derived any benefit out of a cadre of 183 officers. It has affected only officers of between two and eleven years' service and only for limited periods. In the case of the Police Service no member so far has been able to benefit from the time-scale approved for that service by the Secretary of State."

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord,

I think the House will be glad to see me rising, as this means the end of our long debate on this Budget. I desire to make my remarks as brief as possible. In the first place, as regards general questions, I notice that many members still gaze with hungry eyes upon the unspent balances of non-recurring Imperial grants, and some of them ask that if we cannot spend them at least they should remain at our disposal. The fact is that these balances cannot at present be touched by us. They form a part of the general reserve fund of the Government of India, and at present we can touch them no more than we can at present touch the reserve funds of Kaiser Wilhelm, however much we may hope to do so in future! All we can do now is to hope that when brighter times come, these sums will again be placed at our disposal. As regards another general question, several gentlemen have asked that the Departmental Budgets should be printed and circulated along with the Provincial Budget. I am not sure those who make this request have seen the Departmental Budgets and realise their enormous bulk. It would hardly be worth the trouble to print all these papers and circulate them to members. Moreover, the Hon'ble Mr. Stephenson and the heads of departments are always glad to provide Hon'ble Members at any time of the year with any details they require as regards the departmental Budgets. Besides, there is the practical difficulty that, until the Provincial Budget is passed, the Departmental Budgets are not finally passed and so all we could circulate to Hon'ble gentlemen while the Budget discussion is going on would be a set of level estimates. In the circumstances, the present system seems to be the most convenient.

Then I turn to the different departments which are under my charge. These departments are many, viz., Land Revenue, Public Works, Medical, Excise, Emigration and Commerce. The criticisms which have been made upon these departments are numerous. I hope therefore Hon'ble Members will pardon me if I do not deal in detail with every one of these numerous criticisms. I can only say that we have noted the criticisms with care, and when better times come we shall see what we can do to meet the wishes of the Hon'ble Members. I will therefore confine myself to the most important points which have been brought forward in the discussions on the Budget.

As regards Land Revenue, the first criticism is made by the Hon'ble the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad. He points out that there has been a drop of 11 lakhs of rupees in the income of last year compared with what we had expected. I gather that he has drawn our attention to this drop of 11 lakhs in a spirit of mild criticism, but as far as I can see the

11 lakhs to which he refers are 4½ lakhs which are due to the leniency of Government in collecting the dues from raiyats in khas mahals and 6½ lakhs which are due to similar leniency on the part of Government in collecting from landlords and tenants the costs for surveys and settlements. I hardly expected that we should be criticised for this leniency. In fact, while the Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur has criticised us for not collecting these 6½ lakhs other Hon'ble gentlemen have earnestly asked us to postpone the survey and settlement operations and to refrain in a very great measure from collecting the charges which are still outstanding. At first sight this is a very reasonable proposal, but I am sure if Hon'ble gentlemen had as much practical experience of survey and settlement work as the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, the Hon'ble Mr. Kerr and myself they would realise that to stop a survey and settlement which is in actual progress is almost always a great mistake. It has been tried on more than one occasion and it has turned out to be a very bad move. In the first place, it is an extremely hard thing that we should suddenly dismiss a large body of hard-working and low-paid officials. The settlement staff is not numbered in units of tens or hundreds, it is numbered in thousands—thousands of low-paid amins and clerks. These deserving men pick up a precarious livelihood in every settlement, and I am sure Government should think twice or three times before it turned them out without a penny until the end of the war. Not only so, but if we turned out these men we would be turning out a highly-trained staff which would be extremely difficult to collect again. Any business employer knows that when he has spent years in training and collecting a special staff it is the very worst economy to let the staff go and try years afterwards to collect them. Even if we took this course and dismissed several thousand men, it would be impossible to dismiss every one. It would be absolutely necessary to retain a nucleus in the district and the expense would thereby mount up. The house-rent that we pay would also have to go on. The steamers would have to be retained and paid for. The tents would have to be stored and they would certainly rot and deteriorate. In short, when we stop a settlement and try to pick up the threads in a later year we invariably find that the ultimate cost of that settlement is very much greater than if we had not stopped, and that when we come to collect the cost from the landlords and tenants we have to collect a very much larger sum than would otherwise be the case. Not only so, but the results are very much worse. When an operation is suspended the draft record becomes stale. You may suspend an operation for a year or two years, but you cannot stop people being born and people dying ; you cannot stop transfers and you cannot stop alluvion and diluvion. A very large percentage of the entries become incorrect and we have to struggle against time to bring them up to date and to rectify all the errors that have crept in. Try as we like, the ultimate record is sure to contain errors. Perhaps worst of all we stir up disputes and leave them undecided for several years with the result that riots and bloodshed occur. From bitter experience we have found out that it is bad policy, it is not real kindness to the landlords and it is not real kindness to the tenants to stop a settlement which has once begun.

Then Hon'ble Members may say, if you cannot stop the work, at least you can stop collecting the cost. I do not know if the House generally realise what a small sum it is that we collect from the raiyats. I cannot at this moment quote the figures for every district, but I can give you the figures for the district of Bakarganj where I was Settlement Officer. In that district the charge made against the raiyats was only one anna on the rupee on their rent. A raiyat, whose rent was Rs. 5, paid 5 annas and a raiyat, whose rent was Rs. 10, paid 10 annas, and so on. I am afraid that many zamindars realise larger sums every year in the shape of abwabs or takavi. We have never had any settlement in any part of Bengal and Bihar in which the raiyats have not simply tumbled over one another to pay their

settlement dues. Something between 95 and 99 per cent. has always been paid on the first opportunity without the slightest compulsion; and no wonder; for the raiyats, when they pay these few annas, get what is to them a regular charter of their rights. They get a clear statement of every field in their holding, a clear statement of their status and legal rights, and a clear statement of the rent which can be demanded and which cannot be enhanced save by the process of the Tenancy Act. Finally, each raiyat gets, without additional charge, a good printed map showing every field in the village. The Settlement Officer of Mymensingh, who is now collecting his dues from the raiyats, writes and assures me that he has not had to issue a single certificate and yet the raiyats almost to a man have come forward and put down their few annas in order to get these papers which they value so much.

Turning from the raiyats to the zamindars, it is perhaps in these days a little harder for them to pay the entire demand at once. We recognize this and we have issued instructions to the settlement officers that they are to treat their landlords with the greatest possible consideration. Whenever they find that a landlord is unable to pay in a lump sum he is to get a "kistibundi" in such terms as are reasonable, and we have asked that certificates and coercive processes should be used in a most sparing manner. I am sure the Hon'ble Members will see that we have taken all steps that are reasonably necessary. As I have said before, it is extremely difficult to stop a settlement once it has begun, but it is not so difficult to stop it when only the traverse survey has been done and the cadastral survey and draft record-writing have still to be undertaken. We have therefore given instructions that the settlement operations in the district of Bankura shall be kept in abeyance for a year; but in other districts after most careful consideration we have come to the conclusion that it is much better for all concerned that the operations should proceed and we have full confidence that the kindly feelings with which every Settlement Officer is inspired will ensure that no hardship results either to the landlords or to the tenants.

Turning to agriculture, the Hon'ble Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan has drawn attention to the value of demonstrations of agricultural improvements. We are fully alive to the value of such demonstrations and we are now engaged in increasing the staff of demonstrations. The Hon'ble Member would like to see more demonstrations in the *khas mahals* of Bakarganj, and I think he may rest assured that I for one am not likely to overlook the claims of that district. As regards fisheries to which another Member has referred, I would recommend him to read Mr. Southwell's very valuable Bulletin (Bulletin No. 5) in which the whole history of our fishery operations is given in detail. Then I was asked by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur what is the sum of Rs. 50,000 which was been put down for gratuitous relief. An exactly similar sum was put down in the year which has just closed. We thought it was wise to make that provision in view of the distress which might still be prevalent in the Burdwan Division. I am glad to say that we had only to spend Rs. 2,000 of that amount. But, although last year we spent only Rs. 2,000, we considered it wise in the present year to repeat the full allotment of Rs. 50,000. We do not know when or where it will be required. We trust it will not be required at all, but all will agree that it is a prudent and considerate provision.

Turning to Public Works, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur has asked for some particulars about the Grand Trunk Road. The road, he will remember, is partly under Government and partly under local bodies. We admit that this is not altogether a satisfactory arrangement and we have been considering whether the whole length of the road from the capital until it leaves this Province could not be brought under one management. In the meantime, for the stretches which are under Government management I can tell the Hon'ble Member that Rs. 1,33,000 have been set down for repairs and

Rs. 15,000 for improving and widening the road at one place. While I am o the subject of roads in that neighbourhood I may allude to what the sam Hon'ble gentleman said about the Howrah-Amta Road. That road i under the District Board, and any representation about that road should b made to that local body.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Musharraf Husain and the Hon'ble Mr. Chapli have referred to the Dooars roads. We are going on with our programme fo the improvement of roads in that district and have allotted four and-a-hal lakhs for the coming year. As the Hon'ble Maulvi Sahib has pointed ou there are two systems, the Eastern system and the Western system, and h is very anxious that we should connect the two. Sooner or later we must con nect them. In the first instance, however, we will confine our attention t improving the two systems, and when they are in a proper state of efficiency we will consider what is the best way to connect them.

Turning to other branches of the Public Works Department severa gentlemen have alluded to the measures which we are taking to obviate a recurrence of the Burdwan floods and mention has been made of the admirable report of Mr. Addams-Williams. It is the intention of Government to carry out as far as possible the recommendations in that report. In the present year we have allotted a small sum of Rs. 35,000 which will be spent for survey, etc., in connection with these projects. I assure the House that we are not likely to forget the Burdwan floods and that we shall do all in our power to prevent their recurrence.

Turning to the question of the Chittagong Port, the Hon'ble Mr. Bayley has asked us to make a pronouncement of our policy. I am afraid I can make no pronouncement beyond referring him to the resolution which was moved by the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray and accepted by Government at the meeting of the Council at Dacca last autumn. We accepted that resolution then and we still accept it. As regards the finance of the Port, I find that during the last two years Government have given 26 lakhs to this port in addition to a recurring grant of one and a half lakhs which runs for five years and is borne half by the Imperial Government and half by the Provincial. These sums that we have made over to the Port Commissioners of Chittagong have not, we find, been entirely spent. In fact, the other day when they came up and asked us either to give them or lend them Rs. 75,000 in order to buy a dredger we looked into the state of their finances and found that they had been banking some of the money which we had given them. At that time they had a comfortable banking balance of two lakhs of rupees. In the circumstances we were hardly inclined to give them another Rs. 75,000 either as a loan or as a gift and we suggested that the Port Commissioners should use part of the sum which they had banked to buy this dredger. I do not think the House will say that this was an unreasonable thing on the part of Government. The Hon'ble Mr. Bayley has put in a modest request for 72 lakhs of rupees. Well, I can only say that it is a difficult thing to take the "creeks from a Highlander" and it is an equally difficult thing to take 72 lakhs of rupees either from this Government or from the Government of India within the measurable future. But although we cannot give any promise for such a large sum this Government always have had and always will continue to have a very kindly eye on the port of Chittagong. I must apologise to the Hon'ble Mr. Bayley and to his colleagues for having repeatedly promised to go down to Chittagong and examine these questions on the spot, and having repeatedly found at the last moment that I could not do so, but I am really going down in the last week of this month. The Hon'ble Mr. Cowley will accompany me and we shall examine every question in connection with the port of Chittagong and see what we can possibly do to improve the circumstances of the port.

Mr. Beatson Bell.

Turning to the medical budget, the Hon'ble the Nawab from Comilla has drawn the attention of Government to the needs of mufassal hospitals. I would be the last person to neglect the mufassal at the expense of other places, but at the same time it must be recognised that the duty of providing hospital accommodation in the *mufassal* rests primarily not with Government but with the local bodies. I find it is estimated the District Boards and municipalities will allot in the coming year Rs. 8,80,000 towards the upkeep of hospitals and dispensaries. Government look to them to do the major part of this work but at the same time I find that Government themselves propose to spend on *mufassal* hospitals and medical attendance in the mufassal no less a sum than Rs. 6,29,000. Considering that we have laid down that this is primarily not our business but the business of the local bodies, we are not doing badly when we are giving six lakhs odd in addition to the eight lakhs odd offered by the local bodies.

Turning to the question of Belgachia Medical College, to which several Hon'ble gentlemen have referred, the Secretary of State has sanctioned an initial grant of 5 lakhs and half a lakh recurring for the improvement of this college, but it must be remembered that this was not an unconditional grant. The Secretary of State has sanctioned it on the distinct understanding that the college authorities will provide 2½ lakhs as initial expenditure, also that the municipalities will provide Rs. 30,000 and the University Rs.10,000 as recurring expenditure. I sincerely trust that the college authorities, the University and the municipalities will be able to provide their share because it would be a thousand pities if the generous grant that the Secretary of State has sanctioned were allowed to lapse.

Turning to the question of excise, it is refreshing to hear the two sides of the question put before us, the whole-hearted temperance advocacy of the Vice-Chancellor and the brave defence of the consumers of intoxicants by the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha. Government as usual are trying to steer a middle course between the Scylla of the Vice-Chancellor and the Charybdis of the Raja. We want to see the minimum of the drinking and the maximum of revenue, and we steadily pursue that policy.

On behalf of the Government, I tender our thanks to the Advisory Boards in the mufassal and the Licensing Board of Calcutta. This is a subject to which several gentlemen have alluded. The Advisory Boards, as the House is aware, have no statutory functions; they confine themselves to helping the local officers. These committees exist, I am glad to say, in every municipality and in every area which has a local board throughout the province, and they are doing excellent work. In Calcutta, the Licensing Board has very large statutory functions in deciding where there should be excise shops and where there should be none. Hon'ble gentlemen would perhaps like us to have boards with statutory functions throughout the province; possibly we may have this in time, possibly we may not. I think it will be wise to confine ourselves in the first instance to the experiment of Calcutta. After all, it is not a small experiment. One-third of the whole excise revenue of the province comes from Calcutta. Therefore, in an area which is responsible for one-third of our excise revenue we have set up an independent Licensing Board with very large statutory powers. This is an experiment which, I am sure, the House will watch with the greatest interest and until we see what happens in Calcutta it would be unwise to rush in and institute similar boards in the mufassal.

Turning to the question of emigration, the Hon'ble Mr. Chaplin has alluded to the question of coolies in the district of Darjeeling. He said that during the Abor Expedition considerable numbers of transport coolies were, he believed, taken from the tea-gardens and he has also voiced other grievances which the tea-planters feel with regard to the recruitment of coolies. These coolies were recruited not for this Government, but for the Assam Government. They were recruited, in the first instance, for a military expedition and

afterwards they were recruited in connection with political raids on the frontier. I think there has been some misapprehension regarding this. It has been alleged that these coolies who were recruited in the hill have suffered in health by being sent to work in the plains. This is very far from being the fact. A gallant officer who is now fighting in Flanders at the head of Indian troops informed me that he himself worked with these coolies at a height of 10,000 feet in the Mishmi Hills in the year after the above expedition. For such work none but hill men could be employed, and the coolies recruited in Darjeeling did, as might be expected, admirable work for the State. Then, as regards Mr. Chaplin's allegation that coolies were taken from tea-gardens, I find that he is again under a misapprehension. The Tea Association has specifically disclaimed this allegation. It has confined itself to saying that coolies were taken in large numbers from the bazars and bustees and that to fill the vacancies so caused coolies are attracted away from the tea-gardens. That is quite a different matter. We, like anybody else, can go to the bazar and see what labour we can get from it, but we do not go round and snatch coolies from the gardens of planters. That is a thing which we have never done and which we never shall countenance. In order that the House may understand the real issue between the Government and the tea planters of Darjeeling, it will be convenient if I read what we wrote a few months ago to the Tea Association on this subject :—

> "Your letter under reply raises two questions: firstly, the recruitment for Government purposes in the Darjeeling district, and, secondly, the abolition of the thana parade of military recruits at Darjeeling. The first question has been discussed on many occasions, and it is unnecessary to examine it at length in the present letter. But I am to point out that the coolies recruited by Government have been recruited for semi-military purposes and for employment mainly in hilly districts, and that the facts and figures on which your Association base the assertion that these coolies have been employed to the detriment of their health have not been furnished to Government. The attitude consistently adopted by Government in this matter is that it is impossible to admit the claim of the tea planters in Darjeeling to a monopoly of Gurkha labour. Owing to their proximity to Nepal they are already favourably situated with regard to this labour, and there is no desire to deprive them of this advantage. But it is impossible for Government to limit the field for the employment of Gurkha labour, and the tea industry in Darjeeling must compete for this labour in the local market, the labour being allowed to seek the employment which it considers to be most to its advantage. At the same time, His Excellency in Council is prepared to direct the local authorities that, while giving reasonable facilities to recruiting parties for Government purposes from other Provinces, they shall do nothing to dissuade any man from entering the labour force of a tea garden, if the man himself desires to enter it.
>
> "As regards the thana parades, it was represented to this Government that the orders requiring that every recruit should be paraded for two Saturdays at the thana were very inconvenient to the military authorities and led, in some cases, to recruits being detained for an undesirably long time through missing one detachment and having to wait for the next. It was further reported that during the last ten years there had been no instance of recruits being claimed at the thana parade. It is still open to managers to claim recruits from the depôt, but the recruits concerned belong to the fighting castes, and as it is the accepted policy of Government to discourage in every way the recruitment of Gurkhas of the fighting castes for civil employment, the danger of the military recruitment interfering with the labour on the gardens will in the future cease to exist; and the opportunities given of claiming at the depôt any Gurkhas who were employed in the garden before the issue of the orders against the recruitment of military castes would seem to be a sufficient safeguard for present requirements."

That is a plain statement of the case, and I think the Council will agree that the attitude of the Government has been reasonable and fair throughout.

I would only mention one other subject, and it is a very entrancing subject, which has been alluded to by many Hon'ble Members. I refer to the industrial expansion of the Province. In this matter, the Local Government

are, as you understand, at some disadvantange. We are not like a ministry in the British Parliament who are more or less homogeneous in their economic views. The members of a Local Government, on the other hand, are brought together in a more or less fortuitous manner and I think it is probable that our personal opinions of the Members, Secretaries and Heads of Departments represent every shade of economic thought—from the stern rectitude of John Stuart Mill on the one hand to the whole-hearted heresy of Joseph Chamberlain on the other. When therefore we are asked to make a collective pronouncement on an economic problem we are placed in some difficulty. We feel very much like the cow-boy who purchased a printed prayer and framed it and pointed to it every night saying 'them's my sentiments.' So it is with a Local Government. We can only take the dispatches of the Secretary of State and the speeches of the Member-in-Charge of Commerce and Industry, and point to them saying 'them's my sentiments.' But within the limits laid down for us we are willing and anxious to do whatever is humanly possible for the industrial development of this province and as a beginning we are asking the Government of India to obtain for us an expert Director of Industries, and the larger the powers that are given to our Director of Industries the better pleased the Local Government will be. With these few words, I close my observations and thank Hon'ble Members once more for the kindly and considerate way in which they have received the Budget of 1915-16"

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was adjourned to the next day, Wednesday, the 7th April, 1915

A. W. WATSON,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal and Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA;

The 27th April, 1915.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892, and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Wednesday, the 7th April, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble COL. W. R. EDWARDS, C.B., C.M.G.

The Hon'ble MR. C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, C.V.O.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. CUMMING, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H L. STEPHENSON, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. F. SAMMAN.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKES CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M. Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHOSHI KANTA ACHARYYA CHAUDHURI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAYAN RAY.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. W. C. CHAPLIN.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HUQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

THE Hon'ble Colonel W. R. Edwards, C.B., C.M.G., made the prescribed Oath of his Allegiance to the Crown.

CITY CIVIL COURT RESOLUTION.

[The discussion on the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray's resolution, regarding the establishment of a City Civil Court in Calcutta, which had been postponed from the meeting of the 14th December 1914, was resumed. The Resolution was as follows :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a City Civil Court, separate from the Calcutta High Court, be established in Calcutta for the trial of suits valued at rupees ten thousand or under, or of such valuation as the Government may think proper, which may be instituted within the original civil jurisdiction of the said High Court, and that Government be pleased to take the necessary steps for the early establishment of such a City Court.]

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, when learned counsel and learned vakil disagree, it becomes difficult for lay people, innocent of legal wisdom, to make up their mind and vote with either. But I venture to think they are all the same entitled to entertain, and when necessary, to express, their own views on a matter such as the one now before the Council. For is it not this same body of men which is the litigant public as well, and which pays the piper?

My Lord, as a man from the mufassal, owning neither blue nor buff as the colour of my conviction, I can claim to have viewed the subject from the standpoint of an impartial observer, who, perchance, might be credited with seeing more of the game than those engaged in it. A mufassalite having to spend quite a large part of the year in this city, I have had in a manner special facilities for noting and comparing things for myself, and I can at once say that I shall be sorry if the resolution now before us does not receive the whole-hearted assent of this Council.

My hon'ble friend the mover has dealt with his subject with a mastery of details which a man of his professional experience alone can command. After having listened to him it ought not to be difficult for any one of us to fall in with his views. The facts and figures with which the Hon'ble Mr. Ray has embellished his arguments are in themselves very instructive and sometimes amazing to a degree. If the Original Side of the High Court has been known to us for anything more than for any other, it has been for certain, rather original, methods in which people can relieve themselves of their superfluous cash with its aid. We of the mufassal fight shy of the ordinary original civil jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court, because to have property or any business concern within the magic girdle of the Circular Road, stands for a series of interminable troubles, directly one has to cultivate acquaintance with a particular neighbourhood not far from this Council chamber. While life in these circumstances proves a burden, death, which ought to close one's days of misery, oftentimes opens a chapter of misfortunes for the dear ones left behind. For, it is no exaggeration when I say that it is at best a legacy of troubles which people often bequeath to their children in this Presidency town, thanks to the costly and cumbrous procedure obtaining on the Original Side.

Since the introduction of the resolution last December, a mass of literature bearing on the subject has been placed before us. And from all that I have been able to gather, I am firmly convinced that there is absolutely nothing to be said against the proposal. The main question on which the whole thing turns is as to whether the Original Side practice and procedure keep out a class of people who have to put up with wrongs rather than seek redress in the High Court. The answer to this has been furnished, in the only possible way in which it could be furnished, by an emphatic 'yes,' by our worthy Municipal Corporation as also by the British Indian Association—quarters to which alone one would look for an unbiassed and authoritative expression of opinion on the point at issue.

There is one common sense point of view from which I would ask hon'ble members to approach a discussion of the question before us. Under

[*Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur.*]

present conditions, each party to a suit on the Original Side has to choose a particular class of legal practitioners through the agency of another branch of the legal profession, the minimum requisite being one lawyer of each of these two classes. It seems to me almost an interference with the rights of parties thus to bind them down under hard-and-fast rules in the choice of their legal advisers. The choice as well as the number of lawyers to be engaged in a particular case must depend on various factors, and very particularly on the length of the purse of the party concerned. Outside the jurisdiction of the Original Side the parties have a perfect liberty of choice in the matter of their legal advisers whose number need not be more than one on each side, and even when these mufassal cases come up to the High Court on appeal, their freedom of choice is not taken away. I do not see any reason why on the Original Side alone there should be any artificial restrictions in the matter of their choice of lawyers. If a vakil can be good enough for my purpose in one room of the High Court, I fail to see why I should be obliged to engage at a greater cost perhaps indifferent counsel along with the necessary adjunct, a solicitor, in order to represent me in an adjoining chamber of the very same Court. This is, of course, how the incongruity and injustice of the whole thing strike a mere outsider belonging to the mufassal.

As my hon'ble friend has said, the proposal he has brought forward is not a new one. Much controversy raged round the subject more than ten years back, after the proposal was started by Lord Curzon; and an old resident of Calcutta—a respected member of my community and the first Moslem graduate in Bengal—threw himself into it with a view to help the inauguration of a District Civil Court in Calcutta which would bring justice to the doors of those of humbler means. In the course of an article on the subject, this old gentleman wrote thus:—'I am an Indian and may be supposed to possess some knowledge of the Indian people. I am an old resident of Calcutta, and my experience may not be entirely worthless. I know of cases where people dispossessed of rights have not been able to sue because of exorbitant costs; I know of cases where part owners have been continually cheated and have eventually had to accept a settlement and give up a portion of their just claims; I know of cases where people have had to surrender a right of drainage on account of the heavy costs of seeking aid of the High Court.'

My Lord, who can read these lines but as an indictment of the cumbrous and costly judicial procedure at present in vogue in Calcutta? If we are not to be told that men of moderate or humble means are so many intruders in this city, whose presence within the city limits of Calcutta is not desirable and is not desired, if we are not to be told that the Original Side exists for the perpetuation of an institution which stands self-condemned in the eye of the people, and for the benefit of the few whose powerful voice drowns the moan of the weak and the poor, then certainly a measure on the lines suggested by my hon'ble friend should be taken immediately in hand by your Lordship's Government. If Your Excellency can carry out this much needed reform, your Lordship's name will be handed down to posterity as a benefactor of the poorer classes, who are the hardest hit by the present Original Side procedure.

My Lord, I have heard it said that cheap justice is not quite the thing one should grow a liking for. But can there be no contrivance by which cheapness can be combined with efficiency? It is a matter of common knowledge that our subordinate Indian judiciary dispenses justice of a marvellous quality considering the expenditure involved. But, I take it, that what my friend the hon'ble mover has before his mind's eye is not a mere replica of a mufassal Civil Court, but a court presided over by a professional man almost of the same calibre and experience as the average Original Side Judge—one who should be able to satisfy the most fastidious of our city friends. It will, moreover, I trust, combine in itself the best features of the Original Side as also of the Mufassal courts, and thus set at rest the opposition which the proposal has evoked.

[*Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri. Khan Bahadur; Raja Dinendra Narain Ray.*]

There is a section of the public which views the proposal embodied in the present resolution as one to shear the High Court of its crown and glory. I trust the High Court has not yet to depend upon its ordinary civil jurisdiction as the sole generating source of the halo that has been surrounding it so long.

I beg to remind my friends that the Original Side affects people who, I concede, may be the cream of our society, but who certainly form nothing more than an insignificant minority, considering the vast millions inhabiting the three provinces over which the High Court of Calcutta exercises jurisdiction at present. The only character in which the High Court presents itself to the view of the people in the mufassal, is that of the Supreme Court of Appeal which corrects evils and sets its erring subordinates right. And it is more in this character that the High Court of Calcutta has justly earned its noble appellations of the great palladium of justice and the bulwark of the people's rights and liberties. So long, therefore, as the appellate jurisdiction retains its vitality and continues as a relentless mentor of people and official alike, so long, I say, will it continue to hold its unrivalled sway over the hearts of the people.

My hon'ble friend the mover has, with becoming modesty, refrained from approaching the subject from the point of view of the profession which he represents. To one uninitiated into the mysteries of the legal castes, the distinction made in our country between the members of the English Bar and lawyers of Indian training appears meaningless and unjust. The arbitrary exclusion of the latter class from work of a particular character and cases of a particular locality is irksome not only to themselves but to the public at large. It really passes my comprehension, My Lord, how those gentlemen who are loudest in holding forth on the excellence of indigenous talents, when the question of simultaneous examinations or recruitment for higher offices come up, can with any show of reason and decency deny the Indian-trained lawyers an equality with the gentlemen of the long robe—mostly Indians as they are now in Calcutta—an equality which they have more than earned by sheer merit and proved on occasions innumerable. In this view of the matter, if the present proposal is not carried into effect by Government, the alternative suggestion put forward by the Corporation of Calcutta will be equally welcome. For, if the vakils and solicitors are permitted to act and plead on the Original Side on a plane of equality with barristers, this galling caste system in the ranks of the legal profession will be greatly mitigated while the cause of our present complaint will also be very largely removed.

With these few words, My Lord, I have great pleasure in supporting the resolution which has been so ably moved by my hon'ble friend."

The Hon'ble RAJA DINENDRA NARAIN RAY said :—

"My Lord, the controversy which is the subject matter of the present discussion is more than a generation old. The costs of litigation on the Original Side, where a litigant must engage an attorney as well as a barrister are so ruinous a scale that it has become a public grievance in Calcutta. Where claims are small and contested, not exceeding Rs. 5,000 the successful litigant scarcely recovers anything worth having. It has been urged in favour of the present system,—

1st.—That the litigant has not to pay any initial court-fee.

2nd.—That the cases being in the hands of barristers are better conducted than the mufassal cases.

3rd.—That the superiority of the Judges on the Original Side is beyond dispute.

4th.—Sometimes the cases are so intricate that they cannot be satisfactorily decided by provincial Judges.

I do not know nor can I conceive of any other point in favour of the present system and I may say at once that the 2nd and the 4th points have no substance in them. The class of barristers who are generally engaged to conduct a case valued at anything not exceeding Rs. 5,000 is superior to the class of vakils or pleaders who would generally be engaged to conduct such cases if a City Civil Court were established. I cannot admit that such a contention is worth serious consideration. Again it would be idle now to contend that the Calcutta cases are generally of a more intricate nature than mufassal cases and as such the provincial judiciary are not fit to try them. As regards the 3rd point, although the superiority of the High Court Judge is beyond question, the point loses its importance the moment it is admitted, as it is generally admitted, that the cases may also be satisfactorily disposed of by the provincial Judges. The only point which really is in favour of the Original Side is that no initial court-fee need be paid. But here again costs are to be calculated not upon one particular item, but as a whole, and there can be no doubt that litigation on the Original Side is more costly. Even as regards the initial court-fee, it must be borne in mind that the costs on this particular head go to the benefit of the public revenues, whereas from a litigation on the Original Side the public revenues are scarcely benefited. And there is no reason why, from the necessary evil of litigation, the public revenues should not be benefited, even if by the establishment of City Court the total costs are minimised. The whole thing really turns upon this—whether it is an admitted fact that litigation is much more costly on the Original Side, and once this is admitted it would make a very strong case for the establishment of a City Civil Court.

Any device which would lessen the costs of litigation on the Original Side would be a blessing and if by the establishment of a City Civil Court this desirable consummation is effected the proposal cannot but receive general sympathy and support.

With these few words I beg to support the resolution."

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR said:—

"I beg to support the resolution so ably moved by my hon'ble friend Babu Surendra Nath Ray. The establishment of such a Court in Calcutta as is mentioned in the resolution is, in my opinion, an indispensable necessity and the want of it has been causing great inconvenience, trouble and a good deal of unnecessary expense to litigants having suits in the Original Side of the High Court. In the mufassal, suits valued at amounts exceeding one thousand rupees are, as a rule, instituted in the Court of a Sub-Judge and are tried by him. This state of things has been continuing from a long time and I am in a position to state without fear of contradiction that I have never heard of any complaint or of any agitation that the suits there have not been efficiently or properly tried. On the other hand, I know from personal experience that cases which could be instituted either in Calcutta or in the mufassal had been instituted in the latter place on the ground that the litigants expected that they would be more speedily disposed of and that they would entail far less costs and trouble there. It is a matter of public notoriety that the costs incurred by the parties to a litigation carried on in the metropolis are far greater than what is incurred in the mufassal and people generally believe, and they do not hesitate to express their belief that in the majority of cases even a successful litigant finds after the contest is over that the expenditure incurred by him has not only swallowed up the value of the property in litigation but that a large amount in excess of that has gone out of his pocket. The reason for the above state of things is not far to seek. In respect to suits instituted in the Original Side of the High Court parties cannot instruct their Counsel (who really conduct their cases) without the intervention of a very powerful and expensive body of gentlemen known as attorneys and therefore as a rule they have to pay a double set of lawyers

to have their cases conducted there. In the mufassal, the scale of pleaders' fees has been fixed by Circular Orders of the High Court and although the pleaders do not strictly adhere to that scale in exceptional cases, but in charging their fees they keep the scale always in view and in short a mufassal pleader's fee in conducting a case is far less than what is paid to an attorney who never forgets to charge his client even for a minute spent on his work. In addition to what is paid to an attorney, the Calcutta litigant has to pay a very heavy amount as an honorarium to Counsel for conducting his cases.

As regards the average duration of a case in the mufassal and in Calcutta respectively, I am sorry I am unable to quote chapter and verse but from what I know personally and from what I have heard from persons having a first hand knowledge I can say with confidence that a longer period of time is occupied in the Original Side of the High Court than what is occupied in the mufassal for the disposal of a case, and it can be taken as a settled fact that the expenditure incurred in litigation is proportionate to a certain extent to the time occupied by it and therefore a mufassal litigant enjoys better facilities in having his case tried more quickly and at a far less cost.

If my hon'ble friend's resolution be accepted and a City Civil Court be established in the metropolis, vakils and pleaders will resort to it and conduct the cases instituted therein and it is expected that the Calcutta litigant will enjoy the same facilities and privileges as are enjoyed by a party to a suit in the mufassal. An argument has been advanced that the Calcutta litigants are likely to suffer inasmuch as their cases will now be conducted by less able men. Even if it be conceded that vakils and pleaders are inferior in knowledge and ability to counsel and attorneys, which they are not, but that fact, in my humble opinion, does not affect the question at issue inasmuch as the test is whether the suits, if managed by vakils and pleaders, are efficiently conducted and if that is done, then whether the cases are conducted by men of great ability or of mediocre competency does not affect the matter. Moreover the parties will not lose their privilege of engaging counsel and attorneys if they like to do so.

As far as I remember, the question now under discussion was before the public on more than one occasion and if my memory serves me right, the opinion of Government authorities and of some of the ablest Judges of the Hon'ble High Court was not unfavourable to the establishment of such a court. But on the strong opposition of the attorneys and the Calcutta English Bar, the proposal has been kept in abeyance so long a time. It is an open secret that the people of Calcutta very much depend on their attorneys and in a matter like this they are undoubtedly greatly influenced by them and therefore strong opposition has been made to the proposal. The practice of receiving a brief and getting instructions by counsel in connection with a case in the Original Side of the High Court through attorneys is a long established one, and neither the attorneys nor members of the English Bar are willing to depart from it and therefore they have joined the opposition, and the Government, with a view to consider the matter in its various aspects, have invited the several Associations in Calcutta to express their opinion on the subject, but the matter sought to be introduced is so simple, clear and necessary that Your Excellency's Government will have no hesitation to allow the resolution to be accepted.

My hon'ble friend's motion is very moderately worded. He has proposed that the City Civil Court to be established in Calcutta will have jurisdiction only over cases the valuation of which will be up to rupees ten thousand and that cases of higher value will continue to be tried by the Hon'ble High Court. In the circumstances, I hope that the Hon'ble Members will agree to the passing of this resolution.

My Lord, now I beg to refer to some of the arguments advanced by the opponents of this measure. It has been said that the administration of justice

[*Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.*]

must fulfil certain requisites. It must be efficient, it must be expeditious and it must be as far as possible economical, and if the administration of justice in the Original Side fails in any of the particulars, undoubtedly it has failed as a system of administration of justice, but it has not failed inasmuch as the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has not complained against it nor has the landed interest found fault with it, nor has the Press raised its voice to protest against it and therefore it can be taken for granted that it has done its duty satisfactorily. Now let us see, My Lord, whether the above contention is sound. In enumerating the essential requisites of the administration of justice, the opponents have forgotten to mention the most important fact that it is absolutely necessary in a well governed state that justice should be accessible to all and that the method of administering it should be so simple as to be within the reach of every one. It should be borne in mind that it is a blot on an administration if owing to a complicated system of procedure a man is unable to get redress for a wrong committed on him.

As to why the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have not raised their voice against the complicated and costly procedure obtaining in the Original Side of the High Court, I beg to state that the constituents of the Chamber are all rich European merchants quite competent to pay the exorbitant bills of their solicitors and have been accustomed to the procedure which have been borrowed from England. In their eyes there is nothing new and therefore they have taken no exception to the procedure. As far as I am aware they have had no occasion to consider whether the complex system prevailing in a rich country like England is suitable to the poor people of this country. Moreover it is a well-known fact that in England as well as in this country each European firm has its constituted attorneys who are their principal advisors and by whom they are led. Consequently they are averse to do or say anything which is likely to go against them.

Then as to the remarks that landed interests and the Press have not moved in the matter under consideration, I have simply to say that they did move previously and are moving now.

Then as regards the remarks that justice should be cheap, but may not be too cheap I have to say that I am unable to understand what is meant by it. In the first part of my speech I have said that in the mufassal all suits valued at amounts exceeding Rs. 1,000 are as a rule instituted in the Court of a Subordinate Judge and tried by him and conducted by vakils and pleaders and this state of things has been existing for a long time and I am in a position to say that I never heard of any complaint or any agitation that they have not been efficiently or properly tried. Do the opponents of the measure mean to say that because the cases in the mufassal are conducted more cheaply therefore they have not been tried efficiently, and it should be borne in mind in this connection that even Sir Satyendra Prosanna Sinha had to admit that they are efficiently tried there.

It has been further contended "it is feared that not only that the new Court will not be as efficient as the High Court, but also that the transfer of a considerable portion of the work of the Original Side will weaken the authority, independence and prestige of the High Court; suits up to the value of Rs. 10,000 form a large percentage of the cases in that Court and the proposed Court will take away from it the bulk of its work. There are therefore grounds for the apprehension that the proposed measure might ultimately result in the practical abolition of the original jurisdiction of the High Court." The above arguments in my humble opinion have no force. The people of the mufassal have a very high regard for the High Court which they consider as the bulwark of their liberty and they are therefore most unwilling to do or say anything which is calculated in any way to weaken the authority, impair the independence and lower the prestige of the Hon'ble High Court, but they fail to understand how the transfer of cases of small

[*Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.*]

value from the Original Side of that High Court to another Court can in any way affect the independence and prestige of that Court. The Original Side of the High Court has ordinarily no jurisdiction over the mufassal. Can it therefore be said that the High Court's prestige and authority over the mufassal is nil? Certainly not. Any reasonable man will no doubt come to the conclusion that the High Court's authority over the mufassal is as paramount as it is in Calcutta and it is not affected in any way by the fact that the mufassal is not within the ordinary jurisdiction of its Original Side. Then as regards the apprehension that the transfer of cases mentioned above is likely to abolish the Original Side of the High Court is not in my humble opinion well founded. Besides trying civil cases the Original Side has to dispose of various other matters connected with matrimonial, probate, admiralty and diverse other jurisdictions in addition to holding sessions and it will no doubt continue trying suits valued at amounts exceeding Rs. 10,000. Supposing that the Original Side is relieved to a great extent by the transfer of cases mentioned above, that fact will no doubt be beneficial to the litigants without being in any way detrimental to their interests, inasmuch as the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court who sit in its Original Side will have spare time to clear the congested file of the Appellate Side.

Then it has also been suggested by the opponents of the resolution that the mufassal procedure affords great facilities to have *ex-parte* decrees and sales set aside and to cause much delay in the ultimate determination of a litigation. This argument has not at all been substantiated nor can it be substantiated. The Bengal Administration Report for 1912-13 shows that the percentage of application for re-hearing was only 4·9 and of these only 2·4 succeeded. In the previous year such applications were only 4·1 per cent. of which 2·1 succeeded. The above facts go to refute the charge made above. The percentage of successful rehearing applications would have been still less if properties in the mufassal could be so easily identified as they are in Calcutta, and if peons were paid their travelling allowance to serve the processes.

Then it is said there are frequent postponements in the mufassal by which the parties are harassed to a great extent and therefore on the whole litigation in the Original Side is less costly. This proposition also in my humble opinion is far from correct. A comparison of the disposal of cases in the Original Side with those of the mufassal will no doubt throw a flood of light on the subject and absolve the mufassal courts from the charge of dilatoriness imputed to them. It will appear that in the year 1911 each Judge of the High Court has decided 84 contested suits and 181 uncontested suits, whereas in the mufassal in that year each Judicial officer has decided 333 contested suits and 1,689 uncontested suits. In the following year each Judge of the High Court has disposed of 130 contested suits and 298 uncontested suits against 303 contested suits and 1,376 uncontested suits by each Judge in the mufassal. It is quite apparent therefore that a mufassal Judicial officer had disposed of a larger number of original suits than those decided in the High Court. When the difference in the efficiency of the Judges in these two classes of tribunals is taken into consideration as also the facilities in the one and difficulties in the other regarding ministerial officers and the record of evidence are taken into account the difference becomes all the more clear in favour of mufassal Judges. This favourable result can therefore be ascribed only to the simpler procedure prevailing in the mufassal. The Bengal Administration Report of 1913 will further show that in the mufassal 79 per cent. of the cases were disposed of whereas in the High Court only 46·7 per cent. were disposed of in the year. Then there is another fact which is to be taken into consideration in connection with this point. In 1911 only 253 contested suits were decided in the Original Side of the High Court but the total number of interlocutory applications came upto 5,231. In 1912 although only 390 contested cases were disposed of the total

[*Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur.*]

number of interlocutory applications came up to 8,811. The large number of such applications as against such a small number of contested suits would clearly go to show how expensive is the Original Side litigation.

If the expenses for each application be estimated at the moderate figure of Rs. 150 the total amount spent on interlocutary applications alone as against the small number of contested suits amount to Rs. 7,83,750 in 1911, and Rs. 13,21,650 in 1912. Before going to another point I propose to deal with the question as to what are payable to Government and what are payable as lawyer's charges by litigating parties. I take the figures from the report of the Secretary of the Vakils' Association. In 1912-13 the total number of suits decided in the Original Side of the High Court was only 1,284 of which 335 were dismissed for default, 35 withdrawn, 23 compromised, 134 decreed on confession, 324 decreed *ex-parte*, 21 dismissed *ex-parte*, 22 referred to arbitration, 274 decreed after contest and 116 dismissed after contest. So the total number of contested suits which were decided was only 390. It appears also that receipts of Government from the Original Side amounted to Rs. 9,09,597-4-2. Therefore the average amount realised by Government amounted to Rs. 2,332 and odd per case, if 390 contested suits be taken to be the basis of calculation and little over Rs. 708 per case if the total disposal of 1,284 cases (including the large number of uncontested cases) be taken to be basis of calculation. But in the mufassal 624,647 suits were decided and Government received by the sale of court-fee Rs. 1,32,27,346 so for each case Government received Rs. 117, if the total number of contested suits viz., 112,879 be taken to be the basis of calculation and Rs. 21 and odd per case if the total disposal of 624,647 suits (including uncontested suits be taken to be the basis of calculation. It is therefore proved to demonstration that the argument based about heavy Government cost on account of a system of payment by court-fee stamps is fallacious and incorrect and that as a matter of fact the costs under this head amount to about Rs. 1 : 20 and 1 : 34, respectively, in the mufassal as compared with the Original Side of the High Court. Then as to costs payable as lawyer's charges. It is quite clear that the employment of one set of lawyers will cost less than two. If however we go to items of expenditure we find that according to the scale laid down by the circular orders of the High Court, a successful litigant would be entitled to get Rs. 450 only as pleader's fees for a suit valued at Rs. 10,000 and to Rs. 250 in a suit valued at Rs. 5,000. The average court-fee payable for a suit valued at Rs. 10,000 is Rs. 475 and for a suit valued at Rs. 5,000 is only Rs. 275 and allowing Rs. 25 for process fee and incidental charges the average total cost in the mufassal for a suit valued Rs. 10,000 would be Rs. 950 and for a suit valued Rs. 5,000, Rs. 550.

It has been further contended that the establishment of a City Civil Court will introduce a dangerous innovation into litigation affecting the Calcutta public and further by allowing all classes of lawyers to act and plead before the proposed Court, a system will be introduced which is condemned by great English lawyers. My answer to the argument is that I fail to see why it should be condemned by great lawyers. If we look to the judicial system in England we find that the County Courts there and the 'City of London Court has by statute been converted into a County Court' have jurisdiction to try suits up to a value of £500, equivalent to Rs. 7,500, in certain specified matters among which foreclosure or redemption, specific performance, dissolution of partnership, relief against fraud, etc., find a place. We also find that the County Courts have jurisdiction to deal with cases where the value of lands, tenements and heriditaments of the rent payable in respect thereof does not exceed £100. It may be stated here that the market value of a property getting an annual income of £100 is Rs. 30,000. If in London itself a County Court has jurisdiction to try suits of the above descriptions and value I am unable to conceive how the proposed establishment of a City Civil Court in Calcutta can reasonably be condemned.

[*Mr. Stewart and Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.*]

Much has been said about the defects of the mufassal procedure but those who have attacked the procedure there forget that the mufassal procedure is based upon the Civil Procedure Code, the provisions of which apply almost in its entirety to the Original Side of the High Court as well, and it may be stated without fear of contradiction that if the procedure of one Court differs from the other in certain matters it will be seen very easily that the procedure prevailing in the mufassal is simpler in respect to that matter.

In the circumstances I hope that the Council will pass the resolution and the Government will be pleased to have a City Civil Court established as mentioned by my hon'ble friend."

The Hon'ble MR. STEWART said :—

"My Lord, I think it will probably be remembered that in 1903 when the proposal for the establishment of a City Civil Court was considered, it was very strongly opposed by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. That was a number of years ago and we have therefore thought it well to consult all our members to ascertain if their views in the matter have undergone any change. We find that they have not and we have therefore to oppose the resolution. At the same time, I trust that the various suggestions which have been made for the revision of a part of the procedure of the Original Side of the High Court and for the reform of the Small Cause Court will engage the serious attention of the authorities. Beyond this, I would say for myself that while I have a sincere desire for the well being of all classes of the inhabitants of Bengal and while I am open to conviction—it will take a good deal to convince me that their happiness and prosperity would be increased by the provision of any such opportunity as the proposed Civil Court for the further multiplication of litigation in this Presidency."

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"My Lord, I think it desirable at this stage to indicate the attitude of Government with reference to this resolution.

The proposal for the establishment of a City Civil Court is not a new one. Hon'ble Members are probably aware that in 1902 the Secretary of State in a despatch suggested the establishment, on the lines of the Madras City Civil Court, of a City Civil Court in Calcutta. The Government of India consulted the High Court on the proposal and also the Government of Bengal. The Government of India were of opinion that such a tribunal in Calcutta would relieve the High Court of a great deal of petty work and would enable a certain number of people to obtain justice who were debarred from bringing their cases in the High Court by the expense and delay involved. They proposed to limit the jurisdiction of such a Court to Rs. 5,000 both as regards commercial cases as well as those relating to immovable property. The Government of Bengal were asked to consult various public bodies interested in the matter and as a result of such consultation it appeared that the feeling of the merchants and tradesmen of Calcutta was in favour of having their cases tried by the High Court with the assistance of solicitors and barristers rather than by such a tribunal as the proposed City Civil Court. The Government of Bengal in their letter dated the 29th December 1903, while strongly supporting the proposal on the merits, expressed the opinion that it was inexpedient, having regard to the opposition both of the High Court and the public bodies consulted (the British Indian Association was the only body that had favoured the proposal), to establish such a court then and asked to be allowed to postpone the consideration of the matter for some time to come, and the Government of India, in view of the objection taken, decided to suspend further consideration till a more opportune time.

[*Raja Hrishikesh Laha.*]

On the 14th of December when this resolution was first moved in Council Your Excellency on the suggestion of the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan postponed the consideration of it till the conclusion of the budget debate in order to ascertain the opinion of public bodies interested in the question. These opinions have now been received and disclose considerable divergence of views. The same difference of opinion seems to prevail among the nonofficial members of the Council. Government are not therefore in a position either to accept or to oppose the resolution. We have decided to leave the resolution to be debated by the non-official members among themselves, official members will take no part either in the discussion or in the voting. Government are however prepared in the light of the discussion in Council and the opinions received to re-examine the question and will do so with a perfectly open mind."

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA said :—

"My Lord, I beg to support the resolution moved by my hon'ble friend subject to certain modifications which I shall state hereafter. It is admitted on all hands that in considering any reform regarding the administration of justice, three things should be borne in mind, namely, (1) efficiency, (2) expeditiousness, (3) cheapness, and these elements are not to be lost sight of in dealing with the administration of justice in a city like Calcutta. There is no doubt that the Judges of the High Court are the best and the most efficient and it therefore logically follows that the High Court should continue to exercise jurisdiction over the town of Calcutta as at present, but the rules of procedure and the right of audience should be modified having due regard to the interests of the litigant public. The restriction as regards right of audience on the Original Side which is now confined to only one branch of the legal profession, should be removed and the litigants should be allowed a free choice as regards their legal advisers ; that is, the suitors having regard to to their means, may have the liberty to engage either a barrister, a solicitor or a vakil to appear and conduct their cases. This will be considered a real boon by the litigant public.

The apprehension, that the junior members of the Bar will be deprived of the means of proper training such as at present to make them fit to conduct bigger cases as seniors, is, on the face of it, groundless. It is not proposed to curtail any of their rights and they will have their training if people find them to be competent and not at the same time very expensive. It is suggested that the reform indicated above will benefit one branch of the profession at the expense of the others, but where the removal of a restrictive monopoly is the question at issue, this argument does not carry much weight as the balance of advantages is on the side of the public. It has also been stated by the Incorporated Law Society that 'the destruction of a profession could only be justified by the securing of clear and considerable advantage to the public.' It is beyond question that the public will be greatly benefitted, but the so-called destruction is not borne out when we consider the statement made by the Bar :—'As a matter of fact attending to suits in which he is engaged by his client is the least remunerative part of a solicitor's work. He makes money in a variety of non-court-work, *e.g.*, drawing conveyances, leases, etc.' It will therefore appear that if the right of audience be granted to solicitors, their income instead of being affected will be increased inasmuch as they will have an additional source of earning opened to them.

Then it has been said that the administration of justice on the Original Side is more expeditious than in the muffasal Courts and various instances have been cited in this behalf. But the facts disprove this contention. That the muffasal courts are more expeditious is proved by the number of cases disposed of in any one year as stated in the Administration Reports of

[*Raja Hrishikesh Laha : Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.*]

Bengal of 1911-12, 1912-13, and 1913-14 as may be seen from the papers circulated to us. It has further been overlooked that if the City Civil Court be established there will be but one appeal to the High Court as at present allowed from the decision of the Judge on the Original Side and there will be no opening for 'interminable regular appeals, second appeals, third appeals etc.'

It has also been urged that muffasal procedure affords facilities to litigants to have *ex-parte* decrees and sales set aside, thereby prolonging litigation, but we must not forget that this is due only to the difficulties of identifying persons and property in each district comprising a vast area and affording very little facility for communication. In Calcutta the narrowest lane is named and the smallest plot of land is numbered, and people here have their fixed place of abode which can be easily found out. If the muffasal procedure is applied here, there will be no fear of irregular service of notices and summonses as also of *ex-parte* decrees and sales being set aside for non-service.

As to cost, there is not the least doubt that the dual system of a barrister and a solicitor in any suit of however small a value is much more expensive than the system prevailing in the mufassal. The institution fee on the Original Side appears at first sight to be very small, but if we take into account the other items of expenses for interlocutory applications and other incidental matters, the total expenditure comes to a very large amount. On this point, I cannot resist the temptation of quoting from the letter from the Vakils' Association which gives a comparative statement of costs incurred: 'It appears also that the receipts of Government from the Original Side amounted to Rs. 9,09,597-4-2. Therefore the average amount realised by Government amounted to Rs. 2,332 and odd per case.' It further points out that 'the average realisation by Government in mufassal amounted to Rs. 117 and odd per case.' In other paragraphs we find such statements as the following:—

'The average total costs in the muffassal for a suit valued at Rs. 10,000 would be Rs. 950 and for a suit valued at Rs. 5,000, Rs. 550' and 'if inquiries are made about the costs of litigation on the Original Side, such costs for suits of similar value would by far exceed the aforesaid figures of Rs. 950 and Rs. 550.'

Taking all these facts into consideration, it appears to me that justice would be better administered if barristers, solicitors and vakils be allowed to practise on the Original Side of the High Court and the public be given liberty to choose their own legal advisers without the intervention of any one, thereby enabling them to make their own terms according to their means. Failing reform of the Original Side on the lines indicated above, I would support the establishment of a City Civil Court in Calcutta."

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN said:—

"My Lord, to us the non-lawyer section of this house, the heated controversy, which the present motion has given rise to between two branches of a learned profession which has not unoften been known to fatten on the quarrels of others, is invested with an interest all its own. One used to think that—

'Lawyers are too wise a nation
T' expose their trade to disputation
Or make the busy rabble judges
Of all their secret piques and grudges.'

I do not, however, mean to suggest that there is the hand of Nemesis in it all or that the discussion has been the outcome of selfish professional

[*Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan.*]

considerations. Indeed, the names of the gentlemen of the legal profession who have contributed to our deliberations here on this matter are in themselves sufficient proof that whatever has been said or written has been done so with the best of motives.

The one thing that boldly emerges into view and arrests our attention from out of the varied mass of materials which has been thrown up by the troubled sea of controversy is a picture drawn by the Lion of the Original Side of his own leonine majesty. It is, as all such likenesses must be, a little idealised, a little overdrawn and bears loud testimony to the fact that rather thick lines have been added here and there to conceal the repellant look of certain ungainly features. The Calcutta Bar Association worthily instructed as they are by the Incorporated Law Society have inveigled themselves into the belief that their body is the constituted custodian of the rights and liberties of the people, the mainstay of justice and Judges as also of the blue gowned vakil who shines only by reflected glory and that it is the English Bar to boot. My Lord, one is struck by certain points of resemblance between this self-drawn picture and the portrait of the famous knight of La Mancha, the place of his equally famed shield bearer being also fittingly supplied. It is argued that the Calcutta branch of the 'dear English Bar' must have the Original Side as a close preserve for themselves in order to be able to discharge its benevolent duties towards humanity and to 'keep the juniors above want' which is no doubt an equally laudable object. But do these learned gentlemen seriously expect us to think that the question now before us should be approached only from the standpoint of the best interests of any particular profession? After all, the clever arguments which have been put forward to make it appear as if the interests of the public coincide with or rather depend upon the interests of the English Bar, we remain unconvinced that the public exist for the professions and not the professions for the public. I make bold to think that in all such questions the point of view of the public is the only thing that has got to be considered and not how the lawyers, barristers, vakils or solicitors may be affected.

The barristers nevertheless have plumped for a perpetuation of the present system of monopoly because otherwise the world will come to a speedy end. The Incorporated Law Society have gone one better and have petulantly asked for damages if a City Civil Court is established or any other decision is come to by Government which may have the effect of reducing the depth of the solicitor's pocket. There seems to be some curious difference of opinion as to how the Solicitors will be affected by the proposed measure. We have the Bar Association solemnly assuring us that 'A solicitor's business will go on just the same whether a City Civil Court comes into existence or not' That ought to settle the question so far as the solicitors are concerned and to my mind there is no justification for them to put on an air of injured innocence.

After a great deal of futile labour to prove that the Original Side is the epitome of all virtues—known and unknown—the Bar Association unconsciously admit, though not in so many words, the grievance which people have in regard to the ruinous cost of litigation in Calcutta. For we find at the conclusion the Association putting forward two suggestions as to how relief might be given to petty litigants. My Lord, I cannot resist the temptation of quoting the first of these two suggestions which runs thus :—

'The Government may give some relief to really hard cases of petty litigants out of the profits made by them year after year from the Original Side.' This idea of running Courts of Law on a co-operative basis is nothing if not original, and beats all known principles of socialism. Your Lordship will note that the parties to this profit-sharing arrangement will be Your Lordship's Government on the one hand, and the litigant public on the other. The contribution made by the Bar to the poor box is the suggestion itself which is invaluable and for which I sincerely hope the English Bar of Calcutta do not propose to charge Your Excellency's Government hereafter.

[*Babu Mahendra Nath Ray.*]

To be serious, I do not think the Bar Association and the Incorporated Law Society have been successful in their attempt to exculpate the Original Side of the charges that have been levelled against it. As matters stand people have to keep clear of the Original Side because the remedies which they can expect there often times prove very much worse than the disease. A clear case having been made out against the Original Side of the High Court it becomes a matter of secondary importance to the outside public as to the precise lines on which the reform should proceed. As much of the present grievance against the Original Side is due to the system of compulsory entertainment of a double-barrelled legal agency by every suitor and the practical monopoly enjoyed by a class of lawyers, it is therefore necessary to see that in any scheme of reform these two features are done away with. So far as the proposal now before the Council is concerned it satisfies this condition and is in every respect an eminently reasonable one, and I think it deserves the most careful consideration at Your Excellency's hand. With these few remarks I support the resolution of my hon'ble friend Babu Surendra Nath Ray."

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, it has been suggested at a meeting of this Council that the resolution which has been placed before us is an offspring of some petty quarrel between two branches of the legal profession. I do not speak without record, for in the report of the proceedings of this Council which was held on the 14th December last, it was suggested by a gentleman occupying a very high position, that the pleaders of the High Court wanted to have a peep into the Original Side of that Court, and having failed in a direct attack, they have through their representative, the Mover of this resolution, come forward to make a lateral attack on the sacred precincts of the Original Side. I am very sorry that an attempt has been made to lower the dignity of the debate of this Council by pursuing such methods and to induce the Members of this Council to look at a thing from an entirely wrong point of view. If it was really the off-spring of a fight between two branches of the legal profession, I think Your Excellency would not allow the time of the Council to be wasted by a debate on the resolution before us. Sir Satyendra Prasanna Sinha, who, I am very sorry to say, is responsible for this suggestion, has held eminent posts under the Crown, and is himself a gentleman of sweetness and light. I miss him very much at this meeting, but that he should have in the least contributed to lower the dignity of a debate in this Council, is a matter which has deeply grieved me. After all, the leading members of the branch of the profession to which I have the honour to belong, or the branch of the profession to which Sir Satyendra Prasanna Sinha belongs, would not be affected in the least whether a City Civil Court is established in Calcutta or not. Looking at the other end of the scale, I have no doubt, however regrettable this expression of opinion may be, that there are as many cheap barristers as cheap vakils, and neither of these two bodies will be able to shut the other out even when a City Civil Court is established in Calcutta. The question ought to be looked at from the only point of view from which it ought to be looked at, viz., the point of view of the interests of the litigant public. From that point of view, Your Excellency's Government was pleased to ask the opinions of public bodies interested in this question, and this has been done, and as the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda was good enough to point out, there is an acute divergence of opinion on this point. We have on the one hand the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the European Association, the Calcutta Trades Association and the Marwari Association objecting to this proposal. We have on the other hand, the British Indian Association, the Moslem League and the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce approving of it. We have the Corporation

taking a somewhat intermediate view, but substantially approving of the proposal. The question, My Lord, I confess, is not free from difficulties, but it ought not to be looked at from the point of view of either of the two classes of lawyers who are said to be deeply interested in this question. The arguments for and against the proposal have to be carefully weighed before arriving at a conclusion. So far as the arguments against the proposal made by my friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray are concerned, I find that two are certainly worthy of serious consideration. First, that the proposal is of more extensive and of more elastic a character than the scope of the court established at Madras which is intended to be taken as a model. The Madras City Court has jurisdiction, as has been rightly pointed out, over cases not exceeding Rs. 2,500, and also the Act creating the Court, Act VII of 1892, excluded from the jurisdiction of that Court, suits of certain descriptions. Comparing this with the proposal before this Council, one must say that the jurisdiction so far as the proposed Calcutta City Civil Court is concerned would be more extensive certainly from a pecuniary point of view, and it has been pointed out by interested people that, upon data which perhaps cannot be challenged, the effect of establishing a City Civil Court in Calcutta with a pecuniary jurisdiction up to Rs. 10,000 in value, and excluding only cases of admiralty, matrimonial and insolvency jurisdiction, would be to take away from the Original Side of the High Court nearly four-fifths of the suits now tried there. This no doubt is a matter deserving of careful consideration. The other question, the other point which has been raised, a point which is also worthy of serious consideration—is whether by the institution of a City Civil Court in Calcutta, the scope of the Original Side of the High Court would not be so seriously affected as to require us to pause and consider the matter carefully. These are arguments no doubt which have to be weighed, but on the other hand, the principal question which it seems to me ought to be considered is, from the point of view of the litigant public, especially of the poorer classes of the litigant public, whether the continuance of present system is desirable or not. The opinion of the European mercantile community of Calcutta is entitled to great weight, but from the point of view which I am now placing before the Council for consideration, the more relevant thing would be the opinion of the poorer litigants of Calcutta. Now we have the opinion of the British Indian Association of Calcutta which has been circulated, and to which I beg to refer in this connection.

Referring to the European mercantile and trading classes, the British Indian Association says :—

'As they are not in touch with small landed proprietors in Calcutta, they are hardly in a position to appreciate the real difficulties and disadvantages of the situation, while their grievances, not finding their way into the law Courts, seldom, if ever, come to the surface.'

This Association in their letter puts before us a somewhat graphic case of this kind :—

It must be within the knowledge of most of the inhabitants of Calcutta that a poor man, who has his drain stopped or a few feet of his land encroached upon or his window built against by a wealthy neighbour or has a noxious trade set up beside his house, is generally obliged to put up with the wrong, or at best to submit to a disadvantageous compromise.'

It seems to me therefore that the opinion of the bulk of the Indian residents of Calcutta, especially those who have got to deal with the Original Side of the High Court and even the opinions of the petty landlords are entitled to consideration, because after all it is they who are seriously affected by the continuance of the present system. The reason why the poor litigants of Calcutta find it difficult to resort to the Original Side of the High Court for the removal of their grievances is that there is the dual system—the offspring of the English system—prevailing in the Original Side of employing a solicitor and a barrister, a system which is necessarily costly. There is no use denying, you cannot quote facts and figures against a very patent

thing, that this dual system is expensive and costly and makes it difficult for poor litigants to remedy their grievances, and on that there cannot possibly be two opinions. As to the English system, even in England we find that there has been established a County Court in London which has now the power to try suits of various descriptions up to a limit of £ 500. Upon a careful weighing therefore of the points of view both in favour of and against the present motion, I am prepared to support it, but I must ask Hon'ble Members to dissociate themselves from the idea that the motion is the offspring of the quarrel between two branches of the legal profession or that there is any other point of view than the one which is the legitimate point of view. What is to be taken into consideration in this case is the point of view and the interest of the litigant public, especially of the poorer classes."

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY said :—

"My Lord, since the introduction of this resolution in this Council a few months back the various public bodies likely to be affected by this resolution availed themselves of the time and opportunity to form and express their opinions on it. Now that the budget discussion is finished, this is the most suitable occasion to consider the resolution. As the subject is highly controversial it is no wonder that opinion on it should be divided socially because there are different branches of the legal profession whose interests would, one way or the other, be affected if the resolution is carried and given effect to. The object of the Hon'ble Mover is to minimise the expenses that are now incurred on the Original Side of the High Court by the establishment of a City Civil Court. Several instances have been cited in support of the contentions of each party, but it is admitted by many that the dual system of lawyers, I mean the solicitor and the barrister, on the Original Side of the High Court is a source of unnecessary additional expenditure on the part of litigants. I cannot imagine why barristers should not prepare their own briefs for conducting cases. In very many important cases they are consulted by attorneys and they settle the plaints and written statements drawn up by the latter and sometimes draw up the plaints and written statements themselves. Why then should they not act alone without the help of solicitors in the conduct of these cases? On the other hand, are the solicitors who place everything in a cut and dried form before the barristers less competent to examine witnesses and argue the cases? I do not understand why within the limits of the Town of Calcutta a barrister only should enjoy the privileges of executing commissions and examining witnesses, which are denied to his brethern of the other branches of the legal profession? Can it be conceived that an attorney, vakil or a pleader who is quite competent to conduct a case in any of the mufassal Courts loses his talents no sooner he enters the sacred precincts of the Original Side of the High Court? Why then should there be any distinction? The threat contained in the opinion of the Bar, that 'if the City Civil Court comes into existence the Bar may be compelled to relax its rules of etiquette and allow its junior members to act as well as to plead, without the intervention of a solicitor, vakil or pleader and to deal directly with clients and witnesses', would be welcome to the litigious public even if the City Civil Court is not established.

My Lord, I do not profess to be an expert on these questions; but though a mufassilite, I, as one having some mercantile and landed interests both in Calcutta and in the mufassal, have some experience of the respective costs one has to incur no sooner he chooses or is compelled to have recourse to the Original Side of the High Court as well as to the mufassal Courts for any relief. Before settling down in Chittagong about 12 years ago, I served for a full period of 5 years, under articles of clerkship, under a well-known attorney of Calcutta and this enabled me to get into close touch with the

affairs on the Original Side of the High Court. The principal objection is to the compulsory appointment of both counsel and attorney on the Original Side.

The question we have to discuss is whether in practice a suit on the Original Side of the High Court is more or less expensive than one in a mufassal Court. The arguments put forward in favour of the High Court have all been based on the efficiency and expeditiousness for which that Court has an established reputation. No one denies it ; but it is a matter of common knowledge that the expenses of litigation on the Original Side are much larger than those in a mufussal Court. It is often said that the troubles of the decree-holder in a mufussal Court really begin after the decree has been obtained. There is some truth in this ; but that is due perhaps to certain defects in the procedure. I give one instance. A mortgagee obtains an *ex-parte* decree against his debtor. The usual period of grace for repayment elapses. The decree is made absolute and the judgment-debtor's right of redemption is foreclosed. The properties are put up to auction after all the preliminary formalities have been observed, viz., notices served and advertisements published in the local newspapers. On the day of auction the judgment-debtor appears in Court and files a petition saying that no summons or notice had been served on him and the decree had been fraudulently obtained, that he accidentally came to Court on other business that day and became aware of it. The Court at once takes action, postpones the sale and draws up a proceeding and even takes evidence beginning with the service of summons. The peon who had served the summons about two years back is cross-examined at great length and his discrepancy about the position or size of the house in which the dependant lives leads the Court to set aside the decree and a fresh suit is ordered. I admit, My Lord, that this sort of practice calls for a remedy. If compulsory publication in the local newspapers is enforced at the expense of the decree-holder why is not a copy of such newspaper sent by registered post to the judgment debtor and such posting taken as amounting to service to prevent him from raising any objection in future ? This is one instance, but there are various causes which necessitate loss of time and money in the mufassal Courts. Their jurisdiction spreads over a much larger area than that of Calcutta, and the Courts have to dispose of various miscellaneous proceedings in addition to the hearing of cases. Defective means of communication, want of efficiency of the ministerial staff and other factors also combine to make litigation in the mufassal more dilatory and expensive than they would otherwise be.

Turning to the procedure in the High Court, every critic will admit that the costs of administration suits, partition suits and account suits are ruinous to the parties. Some such instances have already been cited by the Hon'ble Mover of the resolution. Some critics have gone to the extent of saying that the prestige of the High Court will be lowered if the proposed City Civil Court is established. The High Court has its best traditions about efficiency, but those are based on its administration of justice not so much in the ordinary original civil jurisdiction as in its appellate jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases and also in its original criminal jurisdiction which deals with the rights and liberties of the people. These will remain unaffected by the establishment of the City Civil Court. Cheapness does not imply want of efficiency. On the Original Side the poor litigant has to pay for innumerable fanciful items comprising fees for interviews, attendances, letters, consultations, settlement of the plaint and the written statement, perusal of the brief and various other details which are unknown in the mufassal. Is it not possible to limit the costs of attorneys in such cases whatever may be the number of letters and attendances just in the same way as costs in the mufassal courts are fixed ? That will enable the litigant to prejudge the expenditure he will have to incur. That the existing state of things demands an inquiry and remedy will be admitted by the severest critic ; taking into consideration the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal and the fact that the introduction of the system at Madras has proved a success I have great pleasure

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

to support the resolution. It is not true that the Hon'ble Mover who is a vakil will be satisfied, as some have suggested, if he is allowed to practise in the Original Side of the High Court. He is working for a public cause and there is nothing personal in it.

My Lord, the result of the expensive nature of litigation in the Original Side of the High Court is that many persons have to suffer wrongs at the hands of a powerful neighbour within the town of Calcutta because they have not the capacity to meet the expenses incident to the redress of such wrongs. Laws, My Lord, are no laws unless they can be brought within the reach of all by the establishment of cheap modes of obtaining relief. Those anxious to indulge in the luxuries of expensive litigation have ample opportunities to do so but the ordinary citizen should be allowed the facilities of safeguarding his properties at a reasonable expense. It is true that the costs of institution of a suit in the Original Side of the High Court are nominal. It is equally true that the subsequent costs at each stage of the suit are prohibitive and compare unfavourably with those in a mufassal Court. This recalls to my mind the Bengali maxim that fever itself does not kill; it is the shivering that kills."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, in this matter unfortunately I find myself in disagreement with my honoured friends and trusted colleagues with whom I am accustomed to act inside this Chamber and outside it, but a public man is not worth his name if he is not able to act up to his convictions and at times to cut asunder the bonds of friendship on the altar of public duty. My Lord, reference has been made by my hon'ble friend on my left* to the controversy between the branch of the profession to which he belongs and the other branch of the profession represented by the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarti. My Lord, I do hope and trust that in this Council Chamber we shall be in a position to approach the consideration of this case in the colourless atmosphere of pure reason untrammelled by the passions and prejudices which a somewhat heated controversy is apt to engender. No matter what our particular avocations may be or the passions incidental to those avocations, we are here as the representatives of the people bound by our oaths and by the sanctity of the obligations which we owe to the public to promote the public weal according to the light that is in us. My Lord, I confess to a sense of embarrassment in having to deal with this question. In pursuance of the suggestion which was put forward by the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan and which was accepted by this Council, opinions have been collected from the different associations and have been placed before us. What do we find? Here we have statements and counterstatements, allegations made by one Association traversed by another. Instead of light and guidance we find ourselves smothered by the dust of a heated controversy and we have to grope our way amid a Babel of conflicting tongues and divergent views. Obviously what has to be done is to appoint a committee to go into the whole matter, to examine the question thoroughly and call for fresh evidence, and then, on the basis of their report, this Council and the Government could deal with the proposition with some measure of assurance.

My Lord, I recently submitted a resolution in connection with the topic before us to the Secretary of the Legislative Council, but that resolution was not allowed. I presume the prestige of the Government requires that a resolution suggested by a private member should not be accepted. My hon'ble friend Nawab Shams-ul-Huda says Government keep an open mind. Government want to go thoroughly into the question. What better method could there be for the Government than to appoint a committee to go into the

* The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

whole question, to thresh out the evidence and then come forward with their report, and that report supported by the authority of the Government would command the confidence of the entire community. I am surprised, My Lord, that that course of action has not been followed and what is the result? The materials before us are very meagre and are my hon'ble friends in a position upon the basis of those materials to come to a clear and satisfactory conclusion? Public bodies have been consulted, but not all, for instance the Indian Association has not been consulted. My hon'ble friend on the left has cited the opinion of the British Indian Association as representing the middle classes. With all the respect that I feel for the British Indian Association and for its illustrious President who is worthy of the traditions of the princely family to which he belongs, I say that it has never been the representative of the middle class people. The Indian Association represents the voice, the vote and the judgment of the middle classes. But you have not consulted the people, and what right have you to speak on behalf of the middle class when the accepted organs of the middle class have not been consulted. Again the High Court has not been consulted. Next to the public, the High Court is the body which is the most deeply affected. Four-fifths of the cases of the High Court will be withdrawn from it, its jurisdiction will be curtailed, and it will be emasculated. Now I ask, is it not right and proper to consult the High Court in order to ascertain what the High Court has to say before you proceed to deal with it in this fashion? Let me remind Hon'ble Members of a little fact which perhaps they have forgotten. When Lord Curzon in his zeal for the partition of Bengal declined to consult the High Court, what did we do? We in the Press protested, and it was taken up by the public, and now you are going to follow a procedure which ten years ago you condemned. My Lord, let us look at the matter from another point of view. Is it conceivable that a responsible Government will take any action without consulting the High Court? And if so, is it not wise, is it not expedient that we should consult the High Court and fortify ourselves with the views of the High Court if we are in the right and correct ourselves if we are in the wrong? My Lord, the papers circulated disclose a strong division of opinion. To that division reference has been made by other speakers and I will not repeat it, but the Corporation of Calcutta seems to take up an attitude which must commend itself to all. It says try to reorganise the High Court, reform the High Court, (I believe that was the note that was struck by my hon'ble friend the Member for the Bengal Chamber of Commerce), then if you fail, have a City Court. My Lord, those who advocate this resolution must not only prove that the High Court is expensive and dilatory in regard to a certain class of cases, but that no reform of the High Court is possible so as to make the proceedings less expensive and more expeditious. My Lord, reform first, revolution afterwards. If reform is not possible, then revolution follows, but you have not tried the experiment of reform in the bosom of the High Court, how can you have recourse to the drastic remedy of a revolutionary change? In the words of the greatest of political thinkers revolution is the last resource of the thinking and the good. My Lord, in the form in which the resolution stands I am not able to accept it. Without the fullest evidence I am not prepared to acquiesce in any proposition which will emasculate the High Court. The High Court has been the palladium of our rights, our bulwark against the eccentricities of men in power. Fifteen years ago Sir Francis Maclean referring to this particular proposal sounded a note of warning, viz., if the original civil jurisdiction of the High Court is curtailed its criminal jurisdiction will necessarily be emasculated. My Lord, the numerical strength of the High Court is necessary to its position, its prestige and its dignity. A High Court will soon be established in Bihar and there will be a reduction of seven Judges and if this proposition is accepted there will be a further reduction. I contemplate the acceptance of this measure

[*Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari.*]

with a sense of alarm and anxiety. I believe it would be disastrous to the best interests of justice, and justice is the bulwark of British rule. My Lord, my hon'ble friend in the course of his speech said that we have to look at the question from the point of view of litigants. Not only so, but we have to look at the question from a higher stand point—from the point of view of the present and the future political progress of the Indian people. My friend will remember the important part which the great Tribunals of Justice have played in the achievement of British constitutional freedom. I have before my mind's eye a great case and a great verdict. If we aspire to that standard of freedom we must see to it that we do not impair any of those safeguards which are essentially necessary for its attainment. My Lord, there is another fact which my hon'ble friends must bear in mind. We are in critical times, the official atmosphere is surcharged with the spirit of repression, and it is most inopportune, it is unpatriotic, at a time like this to do aught which is calculated to impair the dignity, the prestige and the efficiency of the great Tribunal which has been in the past, and which will if maintained in tact, continue to be in the future, the bulwark of freedom and of constitutional rights.

I therefore cannot persuade myself to accept the resolution, and I do trust that Government will appoint a committee to thoroughly go into the matter and submit their report to Government, to form the basis of its action.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI said :—

"My Lord, after the statement made by the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shamsul-Huda, one cannot usefully take up the time of the Council except to accentuate the differences of opinion that have been referred to. And I personally feel a greater difficulty than many in taking part in this debate. I am afraid I shall not be taken seriously if I tell the Council that I approach the question with an absolutely impersonal state of mind, unmindful of what may happen to the motion. As the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha has ungrudgingly reminded me and the members of one of the professions to which I belong we shall have henceforth two strings instead of one to our bow; I may claim that I shall have three in the Original and the Appellate Sides of the High Court as well in the City Civil Court if it comes. My opposition to the present proposal can therefore not be based on personal grounds which have been unpleasantly in evidence in connection with the question. Whatever the personal aspects of the question may be they should be given the go-by in this Council and one should approach it from other aspects. The opinions that have been collected are absolutely at variance with one another and we do not know where we stand. But one thing has been very prominently brought out and that is that all the systems spoken of require thorough overhauling, whether it be the mufassal system or the system obtaining in Calcutta. From that point of view one cannot say that the time of the Council has not been wholly wasted. We had important facts brought out in the various representations that have reached the Government from public bodies that have been consulted, and those that may be consulted hereafter will no doubt help us with further facts.

I am not prepared to say that all that is done in the Original Side of the High Court is absolutely perfect, absolutely above reproach and absolutely incapable of improvement. Reference has been made to what might be done by the High Court itself in relieving what are admitted grievances, and those who know anything of the history of the Original Side of the High Court during the past five years know how whole-heartedly the present Chief Justice, Sir Lawrence Jenkins, has thrown himself into the work, and what measure of success has been achieved. Small measures that attract little public attention have been initiated, measures like the originating summons which have curtailed the procedure and expenditure to an

extent not yet realised by the outside public, not even by the Hon ble Mover of the resolution, who has given this Council instances of old cases, the like of which are not happening now, and which are incapable of happening. A time was, when I joined the profession long ago, when to have an attorney's bill taxed and reduced to Rs. 80,000 was not rare. Those times have gone by, and I know of cases in which mortgage decrees have been obtained for Rs. 30,000 in which not more than Rs. 300 had been spent. I know of cases in which big realizations have been possible by the expenditure of a couple of 100 rupees. We have on the other hand cases where some of the costs must appear to be indefensible. Therefore, it is no doubt a case for investigation and reform, and that has begun. We have no right here to condemn the present machinery of the Original Side of the High Court without asking the Judges and the Chief Justice as to what has been done, and what possibilities for reforms there are.

The interests of the litigants and the public demand that the vested interests of the profession, no matter what branch, should be put aside. But whatever is done, we should be guided by facts, and facts alone and they ought to be carefully collected and analysed from all points of view. If the Original Side picture be as lurid as it has been painted there is a case for its total abolition and not for a City Court with a small jurisdiction. This Government may not be competent to institute such an inquiry but some Government should be competent and a thorough investigation would be needed. But no such case has been made out.

My Lord, the representation of a body to which I owe allegiance has been referred to by the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Ray. We both owe allegiance to that body and we are given facts which are somewhat appalling, as to what the Government makes out of Original Side litigation. A seemingly strong case has been made out in the statement contained in the representation of the Vakils' Association if the facts are wholly correct. We are told there that nearly 9 lakhs of rupees come to Government in the shape of court-fees, and by working out figures in which my hon'ble friend Mr. Ray is an absolute and undoubted past master, we have an interesting statement that whereas Original Side cases give in the way of Government court-fees seven to eight hundred rupees per suit, in the mufassal it is the delightfully low figure of Rs. 21. But this is wrong.

In the first place, the nine lakhs of rupees represent the following items:—Commission of the Accountant-General, commission on sales by the Registrar, Receiver's commission, and last, though not least, Probate and Administration duty amounting to over five lakhs, out of a total of nine lakhs. Comparison has been made between mufassal suits and Original Side suits, forgetting that we have no Original Side suits valued at less than Rs. 2,000. In the mufassal figures, the suits above the value of Rs. 1,000 is less than one per cent. and the whole of the 99 per cent. is limited to suits below Rs. 1,000, and if you go to suits of Rs. 2,000, they are less than ½ per cent. of the total number of suits. Therefore that comparison is of no use to us.

Reference has also been made in the British Indian Association representation to the landlords of Calcutta as being the best able to judge as to what should be done with regard to a matter like this, and on the strength of that among other reasons, the Vakils' Association has asked for a referendum—a thing which even Great Britain did not attempt with regard to larger issues. If Your Excellency be inclined to start a referendum, I do not know what the result will be, but tried by the logic of facts one must be somewhat surprised that out of 1,171 cases in the Original Side in 1912 only 70 related to land. Not only Calcutta land-holders but mufassal gentlemen like my friend, the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray, who on the strength of some property he has in Calcutta, have taken upon themselves to assert facts that do not bear the test of examination. Therefore, My Lord, facts and figures unless they

are fully collected and sifted will be of no use to us. We must have a thorough sifting enquiry into the whole question, whether the grievance appertains to the High Court, or to the mufassal courts or to any other court. Without that, we cannot come to any proper conclusion, and if, as a result of that inquiry, it be found in the end that the system requires a change or reorganisation, I undertake to support any proper measure that may be brought forward. Personal interests and personal considerations should not stand in the way of doing what is right. The Government of India after very mature deliberations, and for various special reasons, thought of a City Civil Court in Madras; but there are various safeguards there, including the safeguard of a much lower jurisdiction than is suggested here. When that matter was on the legislative anvil, the gentleman who made himself responsible for that measure, repeatedly and deliberately said that a measure like that was not to be thought of in connection with Calcutta. Sir Griffith Evans, who knew Calcutta on the Original Side and the mufassal courts as well as anyone who has ever practised in our courts, was strongly and deliberately of that opinion. What has happened since then to make us change our minds? Sir Francis Maclean, who knew the High Court much later, was equally strong in his opposition and since his time, Sir Lawrence Jenkins has introduced important measures for the relief of suitors on the Original Side, for the result of which it is our duty to wait. A *via media* has been suggested by the Calcutta Corporation and also by the National Chamber of Commerce, although the Hon'ble Mr. Mahendra Nath Ray has, with his usual suavity, appropriated that public body among his supporters. Their suggestion deserves consideration and for that purpose also special inquiry is necessary.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said:—

"My Lord, I am neither a barrister nor a vakil but a member of the lay public, always at the tender mercies of my friends—barristers and vakils of the High Court. The question raised by my hon'ble friend, Babu Surendra Nath Ray, is one which should be looked at from the point of view of the public at large and I am thankful that he has raised this question. Looking at it from that point of view, I must confess that the opinion which prevails in my community is for reform of the Original Side of the High Court first, and if that fails then the question of the establishment of a City Civil Court may be taken into consideration. That is, My Lord, honestly and correctly speaking, so far as I have been able to ascertain, the opinion of the community to which I belong and that is, I believe, the opinion of the dispassionate public who have nothing to do with the so-called fight between the barristers on the one side and the vakils on the other.

My Lord, considerable stress has been laid by some Hon'ble Members on the opinion of the Corporation of Calcutta. The Corporation appointed a mixed Committee composed of Europeans and Indians, lawyers and non-lawyers, and they all went into the question very fully. Their opinion has been summarized in the report and I may read an extract from it:—

'The majority of the Committee are, however, of opinion that while every effort should be made to remove such evils as may be recognized, nothing should be done which would tend to destroy or weaken a great and valued institution. After weighing the advantages and drawbacks of each of the proposals a majority of the Committee are on the whole inclined to favour the view that a reform of the procedure at present obtaining in the Original Side of the High Court so as to make it less complicated and less costly might meet the requirements of the situation and they prefer that this expedient should be tried before the introduction of such an innovation as the establishment of a separate and inferior tribunal.'

My Lord, the Corporation, if I may be permitted to say so, is the representative of all interests in the town of Calcutta and its report represents

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji and Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.*]

ıe collective wisdom of Calcutta and I do not think, My Lord, that anyone ere, whether belonging to the barrister community or to the vakil community, would dispute the opinion which has been dispassionately arrived at y the committee after full inquiry, as far as it lay within their powers. My ord, although I lay considerable stress on the report of the Corporation, at ıe same time I fully endorse what has fallen from the Hon'ble Babu urendra Nath Banerji and the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari as to the necessity or the appointment of a commission to consider this vital and important uestion. My Lord, I may submit that the opinion which the Corporation of alcutta and other public bodies may collect is confined only to a comaratively small body and in their case the views of one section might dominate ver the views of the other section. But, My Lord, a commission or a ommittee appointed by Government will take such evidence and will mbrace the public at large and the committee will be able to ascertain very ılly and very correctly the views of the public at large. Therefore I think hat that is the correct course which should be followed on the present ccasion.

My Lord, I am surprised to hear that while some public bodies have been onsulted, the Indian Association, of which my hon'ble friend Hon'ble Babu urendra Nath Banerji is a member, has not been consulted. Perhaps it as been an accidental omission; but at the same time I do not agree with im, and I must say that I controvert his statement that the British Indian ssociation never represents the popular view of the middle class community. Where was the Indian Association which came into existence in the iddle of the seventees and which was ushered into existence by the help f the leading spirits of the British Indian Association and who belonged to ıe middle class, when on that celebrated night at the Albert Hall, the lon'ble Mr. Banerji delivered his impassioned eloquence. My Lord, it is not orrect to say that the British Indian Association does not represent the opular views or the opinions of the middle class community. I, therefore, mphatically resent the insinuation made by the Hon'ble Member."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI, interrupting, aid :—

"May I rise to remove a misapprehension? I said that the Indian ssociation is more, in an empathic sense, representative of the middle class ommunity than the British Indian Association which is an association of ndlords. I stick to that position. I do not desire to go back on it or modify "

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR, continuing, aid :—

"My Lord, this is not the place nor the time to quarrel about this uestion. The British Indian Association does not merely represent the ndlords, but is an association representative of all classes of the community. the rolls of the Association be examined, and I speak from personal nowledge having been closely associated with it for two generations, at ost from its foundation, it will be found that the middle class community om which my friend has sprung, has been its prop since days gone by, ut what I think in this connection necessary to point out is this. There a widespread feeling, a feeling universally shared, that the cost of tigation in the High Court is prohibitive to the poor man, and Government s the protector of the rich and poor alike, ought to take up this question, ıd it can best be threshed out by a committee. No resolution passed in this ouncil even by a majority of the non-official members would be acceptable) the community as would the decision of a committee such as I have ictured, who will examine all the facts and figures and evidence of the public.

[*Mr. Chakravarti and Raja Hrishikesh Laha.*]

In that view of the matter, I am unable to vote for the motion. But I am not opposed to it entirely. With the object of the motion, I am in sympathy, but I think, My Lord, that the suggestions made by the Corporation should be examined by the Government first and I do not know why that suggestion cannot be acted upon, because it is in the power of Government to so modify the rules on the Original Side of the High Court and so reduce the costs as to make it quite possible for the poor man to obtain justice there. With these observations I beg to resume my seat."

The Hon'ble MR. CHAKRAVARTI said :—

"My Lord, I regret that, from a practical point of view, my learned and hon'ble friend, Babu Surendra Nath Ray, did not see his way to withdraw his resolution, and that for three reasons. I am in the habit of speaking every day. It is a part of my life, but on a day like this I can assure Your Excellency that it is not a pleasure. We might have been spared all this talking. All this talking cannot lead to any useful result in the near future especially as long as there is this war in Europe going on. We have to get the sanction of the higher authorities if this innovation is to be introduced into Calcutta. I am sure we cannot get the higher authorities to listen to us now. That is the first thing to bear in mind. The next thing is what my friend Mr. Ray has forgotten. In Madras, they could not pass the Act in the local legislature, but they had to go to the Imperial Council. Even there a difficulty arose in connection with the jurisdiction of the Indian legislature (the Supreme Council) to deal with the jurisdiction of the High Court, and they had to resort to a particular method, avoiding the jurisdiction of the High Court and making it concurrent with that of the City Civil Court in Madras. They said something like this 'we shall penalise the man who goes to the High Court with a suit below Rs. 2,500 by awarding against him certain costs'. So that if anyone desires to have this City Civil Court with a jurisdiction to the extent of Rs. 10,000 and with plenary powers with regard to all cases, it will reduce the jurisdiction of the High Court; he would not get it and he cannot get it in this country. He will have to apply to the Secretary of State, but this is not all, as there must be some discussion in Parliament before it could be done. Therefore it is hardly practicable, and it is more academic in its nature, to discuss a thing solemnly which cannot lead to any useful result in the near future. Further, there is another difficulty in my friend's way and that is that when every one of us is now suffering from the effects of the war, we cannot persuade the Government to launch into an innovation which must entail an expenditure of a large sum of money, and also a certain amount of recurring expenditure to maintain it. Where is all this money to come from? It is better to wait, and there is no hurry about it. I am absolutely at one with my hon'ble friend Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, when he says that we must approach this question from the point of view of the public and the public alone. Therefore, so far as voting is concerned, I would eliminate the barristers, pleaders, solicitors and the vakils, and see the result after eliminating these people, who are sure to be interested one way or the other. For example, my friend, the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, in his treble capacity is the Secretary of the British Indian Association, the President of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Calcutta Corporation. I believe in his legal capacty he is three different individuals—it is therefore very difficult for him to decide in accordance with his conscience.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA interrupting, said :—

"It was decided by the Committee."

[*Mr. Chakravarti.*]

The Hon'ble MR. CHAKRAVARTI continuing, said :—

"Therefore I would not attach the slightest importance to the opinion which has been received from those various bodies, the Vakils' Association, the Bar and the Incorporated Law Society. I put them aside. I would rather take the opinion which has been expressed by my hon'ble friends on the right.* They are practical business men, they have a great stake in Calcutta, they have made Calcutta what it is by their trade and commerce. They certainly ought to be heard. They have come from another part of the world and they have been used to an institution in which there is an intermediary called the solicitor or attorney, and it has been suggested that because of their love for that old association, that they are prepared to maintain this costly establishment, the bifurcation of the two branches into solicitors and barristers. These level headed practical business men are not prepared to make a six-pence go as far as it can? I do not think that out of love for any association they would spend six-pence more than is necessary. It has been suggested that they are not in touch with the residents of Calcutta. I think that they are more in touch with the residents of Calcutta in their everyday avocation than the vakils or the solicitors or the barristers. They have to deal with people of every class, every complexion, every condition. Now, therefore, with regard to those three bodies, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Association, the Marwari Association, these are people whose opinions ought to be considered as of very great importance and ought to be taken into account in dealing with this matter. As against that, we have the opinion of the British Indian Association. I will not enter into the controversy which has taken place between the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur and the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji regarding what the British Indian Association does represent. We have here the august head of that Association, but so far as stature and weight are concerned, he does certainly carry the greatest weight. So far as that Association is concerned, it has been in favour of this proposal. I do not know for what reason, it may be for traditional reasons. They first moved in 1884, then again they fluttered in 1892, again in 1902-3, and for some reason or other they are opposed to my friend, the Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor. I cannot help it. I believe it is in their traditions.

As regards the Corporation, and the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, I think that their position is also the same. I am quoting the words of my hon'ble friend, Raja Hrishikesh Laha, and not expressing my personal opinion, but following the example of the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell with regard to what he said about the sentiments of the cow-boy.

This is what the Hon'ble Raja said in his note on the proposal when it was discussed in the Committee of the Corporation.

'To an outsider who like myself possesses but a portion of the data requisite for an adequate judgment on the question, it appears as if most of the difficulties indicated above may be removed by a few simple measures. I would recommend a reformation of the working of the High Court in its Original Side in the first instance, and would exhaust the resources of internal reform before introducing such an innovation as the establishment of a new Court.'

As the President of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce he has expressed the same opinion, and if I understood him rightly, he has not changed his opinion. I may therefore claim his support to my opposition.

Now, My Lord, with regard to my benevolent friends, the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri and the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray who are outsiders, and whose arguments seem to be this :—'If a thing is suitable for us, why should it not suit you. If we are suffering from ills in the mufassal, why not join us in the same kind of disease.' I may remind my friend the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray that he suffered very badly in connection with a port extension land acquisition case in Chittagong.

* The Members for the Chamber of Commerce

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

My Lord, there are three requisites to be considered in connection with this proposal, viz., cheapness, efficiency and expedition. As regards the last requisite, not very much has been said, and I venture to think that from what the Raja has said with regard to litigation in the High Court it is in the long run far more expeditious to have a case tried there from start to finish than to go through the annoying process of appeal and revision. With regard to cheapness, it has been assumed that if we employ two persons, our method is sure to be expensive.

The argument as regards costliness is also based upon the same misapprehension. It is illusory. What you have to do is to take cases, not extraordinary but ordinary cases, take the average, not cases of Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 to be compared with Rs. 2,000, but take cases over Rs. 2,000 from start to finish, from the time a litigant comes to court to the time that he realises the money and puts it into his pocket and let us examine the same number of cases as regards the mufassal and let us see which is more expensive, more annoying. My Lord, I have very nearly done, and I have to be within the time. My hon'ble friend thinks if he can succeed in getting the resolution through the millennium will come, he thinks the laws delays will be gone, the laws trouble and the laws expenses will be things of the past—a vain hope not likely to be realized.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said —

"My Lord, when I asked Your Excellency to permit me to take part late in this debate, my object was to have an opportunity of listening to the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji. I knew he was opposed to this resolution, and I knew that his fiery eloquence would be levelled against the resolution which is now before this Council. Mr. Banerji has said that his vision has become slightly blinded by the dust of a heated controversy. I do not know if I am quoting his words rightly but that is the sum and substance of what he said. Well, if that is so, and if Mr. Banerji will condescend to take a suggestion from a junior colleague, I would advise him, when we come to a division, to withhold his vote. He could not help speaking against the resolution but at least let him not vote against it. As regards the suggestion for the appointment of a committee I will have something to say later on.

My Lord, if ever the support of a colleague can be sincere and cordial, I give it with my whole heart to the resolution which has just been moved by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray. I confess that when I came into the Council Chamber this morning I came prepared to support the resolution, but I had nevertheless the fullest desire to listen to the arguments on the other side. I have now listened very carefully to the debate and I mean no disrespect to the leaders of the opposition when I say that neither the skilful advocacy of the Hon'ble Mr. Chakravarty, nor the erudite logic of the Hon'ble Dr. Sarbadhikari or the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal, nor even the pursuasive eloquence of the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji has shaken my belief that the resolution advocates a measure of very necessary reform in the system of the administration of Civil Justice in this City.

My Lord, on the last occasion when the resolution was first placed before this Council, the Hon'ble Sir S. P. Sinha delivered a most violent attack not merely against the resolution itself, but also against the mufassal judiciary and also that branch of the legal profession to which I have the honour to belong. To oppose the resolution he was certainly entitled, but he had no justification to shower abuses on those with whom the resolution had no concern. It is a sure indication of the unsoundness of your defence when you begin by abusing the opponents' attorney, and I will presently show that the speech of the Hon'ble Sir Sinha was not only no answer to the case put forward by the resolution, but was simply a wild and ineffectual attempt to justify his attitude of uncompromising opposition. I regret that I feel

[*Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

compelled to say that the speech of Sir Sinha was unworthy of the eminence which he occupies as a lawyer, for it is full of irrelevant arguments which do not at all touch the real points at issue and under consideration by this Council.

My Lord, the Hon'ble Sir Sinha has laid down three canons of criticism for testing the quality of justice administered in a particular tribunal. The first of these is "effeciency." It is argued that the justice administered in the Original Side is extremely efficient because you have here a High Court Judge to try your cases. It is next urged that the justice you will get in the new City Civil Court will be less efficient because the presiding Judge will be a lesser judicial officer than a High Court Judge. This is also the argument of those public bodies who have supported the view taken by Sir Sinha in opposition to the resolution, and it is therefore necessary to examine this argument closely.

My Lord, I hope that Hon'ble Members will excuse me if I draw their attention for a moment to the constitution of the Courts on the Original Side of the High Court. They are invariably presided over by Barrister Judges, *i.e.*, Judges who have been recruited from the Bar. It is well known that a successful practitioner will seldom be induced to accept a High Court Judgeship. I regret Sir S. P. Sinha is absent to-day, but had he been present he would have borne me out when I say that, once a barrister attains success in his profession, he will resent any limits being put on his income and that he will refuse even so highly paid a post as that of a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council. It follows that if even a post like this is not sufficiently attractive, a High Court Judgeship must be even less so. For the purpose of recruitment to the Bench, you are therefore left with an inferior class of people —the class of practitioners from the tolerably good to those sorry specimens of legal humanity at the lowest rung of the ladder, from the half-a-crown counsel to the two-penny barrister, men who eke out a precarious living by a system of legalised robbery. Suppose one of these two-penny barristers was by some lucky chance appointed to a seat on the High Court Bench. Would any one seriously argue that the justice administered by such a Judge would deserve to be called efficient, merely because the judicial luminary happened to be a Judge of a High Court? It is well known that there are numerous Judges of High Courts at the present moment whose seats on the Bench are merely due either to accident or to the accumulated result of a fortuitous concourse of circumstances. As a matter of fact, there are hundreds in the mufassal judiciary in India who in natural ability, legal learning, soundness of judgment and capacity for work are far superior to many a High Court Judge. It is a matter of common knowledge that in numerous cases the decisions of Subordinate Judges have on appeal to the Privy Council been upheld and the decision of the High Court reversed. Does this show that the decision of a Subordinate Judge is bad and that of two Judges of the High Court efficient? I have been a pleader myself for six years in the mufassal and I have had personal experience of the quality of work done by mufassal Judges. I do not, for a moment hesitate to say that there are at the present moment many a High Court Judge who in the discharge of their duties give far less satisfaction to litigants than Munsiffs and Subordinate Judges in the mufassal. The days when the High Court Bench contained none but the very deserving have long since passed away. As matters now stand, you may have almost any one as a High Court Judge. Sir S. P. Sinha was shocked to think that there could even be a suggestion that High Court Judges are not more efficient than mufassal Judges. Well, I do not mind telling my hon'ble friend that though I may not go so far as he apprehends, I certainly suggest that a Judge of the High Court is not necessarily a more efficient judicial officer than the Judges in the mufassal. My Lord, the Hon'ble Sir S. P. Sinha has said that the whole reason of the existence of the High Court Judges as Judges of the Supreme Court in this country is their greater efficiency. Absolutely nothing of the kind. In most cases, they

[*Mr. B. K. Chakravarti and Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul-Haq.*]

xist as Judges merely by accident, and it is often the turn up of a die, in he gambling freaks of fortune, whether a briefless barrister will figure in an nsolvency Court or adorn a seat on a High Court Bench.

My Lord, I have spent some time in discussing the question of efficiency, ecause people have a mistaken idea of the quality of judicial work in the ligh Court. I notice that the question of efficiency of the justice administered in the Original Side is the main prop in the arguments of those in pposition to the resolution and I thought it my duty to try to remove a opular fallacy. I repeat that it is a very big assumption to make to argue that ecause a Judge happens to be a Judge of a High Court, the justice he will dminister will be more efficient than that administered by Judges outside he Mahratta Ditch.

My Lord, the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji has referred to the High Court as the palladium of justice and the bulwark of our liberties! These are no doubt very fine phrases but as is usual with rhetorical platitudes, they are full of fallacy and fiction. I do not wish to discuss whether the High Court is the same palladium, which it had been in days of yore, but the question of its being the bulwark of our liberties depends very much on the personal equation of the Judge who decides a particular case. If it is a convicting Judge, off go your liberties like chaff before the whirlwind.

My friend was referring to a certain recent case which he has not mentioned. My Lord, that case was decided not on the Original Side of the High Court but by the Special Tribunal, and my friend can comfort himself with that."

The Hon'ble MR. B. K. CHAKRAVARTI, interrupting, said :—

"I must correct that error. The Special Bench which is constituted by the Act is a part of the High Court.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZ-UL-HAQ said :—

"My Lord, the vakils have no part in the Court. Whether it is a part of the High Court or not the Special Tribunal will not be touched by the establishment of a City Civil Court.

The fact of the matter is that the real bulwark of our liberties lies not so much in the strong walls of the judicial conscience of a High Court Judge, but in the justness of the laws which the Judges are called upon to administer. If the laws are defective, not even the sturdiest Judge can protect us from petty oppression and tyranny at the hands of a strong and irresponsible Executive Government. Fortunately, however, we are not called upon to discuss whether the High Court is or is not what the fondest fancies of the Hon'ble Mr. Banerji can conceive it to be. The question is absolutely irrelevant to the matter under discussion. The proposed City Civil Court is meant to be a very unostentatious tribunal and cannot by any stretch of imagination touch either the palladium of justice or the bulwark of the liberties of the Indian people.

My Lord, I now pass to the consideration of the question of expeditiousness in the disposal of cases.

I do not think it will cause any surprise in this Council when I say that dilatoriness is not the monopoly of mufassal courts; we have had instances enough even in the High Court where the laws delays have been generally a matter of public comment and much adverse criticism. Indeed trials by Munsifs are sometimes defective because they have to deal with more cases than they can humanly cope with. Then, My Lord, I come to the question of costs and here I dare say I stand on much firmer ground. The Hon'ble Sir

[*His Excellency the President and Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

S. P. Sinha has himself admitted that that is the only argument that my learned friend has got in support of his resolution. That is a very large admission, if it is admitted that the cost of litigation on the Original Side is not merely great, but absolutely prohibitive and ruinous to the litigant then of course the Hon'ble Mover has got the sure help of this Council.

With these remarks, My Lord, I strongly support the resolution.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said:—

"Before calling on the Mover of the Resolution for a reply I should like to say a few words with reference to what has been said by the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji. The Hon'ble Mr. Banerji has complained of the conduct of either the Government or the Secretary to the Council in not putting on the Agenda paper a resolution which he wished to move dealing with the topic now before us. I know that my hon'ble friend is a very busy man and I therefore suppose that he had not read very carefully the letter sent to him by Mr. Watson, the Secretary to the House. If the Hon'ble Mr. Banerji had read it carefully, he would have found that I regretted very much that I was unable to accept his resolution for very definite reasons. There were two things in my mind when I found myself unable to accept that resolution. One was the honour and reputation of this House not only in the minds of the people of Bengal but outside Bengal. The other was a somewhat more selfish view, as I did not wish to be deprived of hearing the eloquent speech of my hon'ble friend (Mr. Banerji). At the meeting of the 14th December last, I myself ruled that the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Ray's resolution was to be brought up again and discussed at the end of this session. It would have been impossible for me to set that ruling aside without holding up this Council to some ridicule. That was one reason why I had to refuse the Hon'ble Mr. Banerji's resolution. The other reason was that if it had appeared in the Agenda paper and the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray had withdrawn his resolution, rule 26 of our Resolutions Rules would have come in as a bar; for it is not yet one year since Mr. Ray's resolution was first discussed in this Council, and therefore any resolution raising substantially the same topic cannot in the interim be discussed. Thus I should have had to rule out the Hon'ble Member's resolution in any case and I would not have had the opportunity of hearing the eloquent speech that I have heard from him to-day. In view of the remarks that have fallen from the Hon'ble Member, I think it right to say that these are the reasons why Government, or rather I myself, could not accept the Hon'ble Mr. Banerji's resolution."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said:—

"My Lord, the time allowed to me to reply is only 15 minutes. I am sorry that, I shall not be able within this limited time to give reply to all the points raised over this question of the establishment of a City Civil Court for Calcutta. I shall try to touch only a few salient points.

My hon'ble friend Sir Satyendra Sinha in opposing my resolution said that it remained for me, a representative of the mufassal municipalities, to take up the cause in which the poor litigants of Calcutta are interested and that the Calcutta public had not so far expressed their opinion. My Lord, I took up the subject because I thought that justice was on my side. Thanks, however, to the intervention of our esteemed and hon'ble friend the Maharajadhiraj Bahadur of Burdwan who suggested that public opinion should be invited by your Lordship's Government on the subject the Calcutta Corporation, that body representing the Calcutta public, consisting of Hindus, Muhammadans, Parsees, Jews, Armenians, Europeans and Anglo-Indians, all residents

[*Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

of Calcutta also the representatives of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Trades' Association in that body, in fact representing all interests in Calcutta, have unmistakeably and in no uncertain terms given expression to their views. That body endorses my views and complains of the expensive costs and dilatoriness of the proceedings of the Original Side of the High Court. A perusal of the proceedings of the Calcutta Corporation shews that the leading Commissioners have unanimously complained that justice was denied to the poor people, that there was a crying demand for a separate tribunal where poor people and persons of limited means might obtain justice at a moderate cost. The Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, one of the richest and most influential landlords of Bengal, himself a resident of Calcutta, owning large properties both in Calcutta and the mufassal and having experience of litigation both in the Original Side of the High Court and the mufassal Courts, in his able note before the Select Committee of the Calcutta Corporation has practically supported my proposal and has clearly shewn that the Original Side of the High Court is neither cheap nor expeditious and that the Mufussal Courts are not inefficient. If the resolution of the Calcutta Corporation with reference to my proposal be properly interpreted, it means that the proposed City Court should have a High Court Judge to preside over it, failing which my recommendation is to be accepted in toto. I humbly submit that it goes further than my resolution. Your Lordship has also heard what my hon'ble friend Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray, the representative of the Calcutta Corporation in your Lordship's Council, has stated to-day in this Council with reference to my resolution and in what terms he has supported it. The Bengal National Chamber of Commerce which represents the Indian mercantile community of Calcutta has also to a large extent endorsed the opinion of the Calcutta Corporation and has advocated radical reform in the Original Side of the High Court. The British Indian Association representing the landlords of Bengal—the association of those who are in a position to speak with authority on my proposal—in their letter to Your Lordship's Government state 'my Committee therefore welcome the proposal put forward by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray a much needed reform which this Association has consistently advocated during the past 30 years.' The Moslem League as representing the views of the Muhammadan Community has supported me. My hon'ble friend Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur, has by his able speech given unqualified support to my proposal.

Sir Satyendra Prasanna Sinha in opposing my resolution said that the administration of justice must fulfil certain requisities, that it must be efficient, it must be expeditious and it must, so far as is possible, be economical, and if the administration of justice on the Original Side of the High Court fails in any one of these particulars it has failed as a system of administration of justice. I have never questioned the efficiency of the High Court. But what I say is that the mufassal Courts are not inefficient and are cheap and also expeditious.

The opinions of public bodies and public men, as well as the opinion of those dispensing justice on the Original Side of the High Court and figures given in the Administration Reports of Government showing the disposal of contested suits both in the Original Side of the High Court and the mufassal Courts, show that the High Court is neither economical nor expeditious, and that it is not the poor man's Court.

Within the last few months two applications were made on the Original Side of the High Court before Mr. Justice Chaudhury (1) for the transfer of an ejectment case from the Calcutta Small Cause Court to the High Court in its Original Side and the other from the Court at Arrah, known as the Doumraon Raj case to the same Court. Petitions for transfer in both the cases were rejected on the ground of heaviness of cost and dilatoriness of proceedings. In the former case, Mr. Justice Chaudhury said: 'I am free to confess that the atmosphere of this Court has often the knack of converting a simple

estion into one of considerable magnitude involving much discussion and xious consideration, but I am not prepared in this instance to give the plicant the chance of engaging our attention' In the Domraon Raj case e same learned Judge said, 'the costs of a litigation of this character in is Court are likely to be very heavy. The costs of translation alone would ount to a fairly large sum and so far as I know, the inspection of docu- nts in the mufassal do not cost anything like what they cost in this Court. may be said that the inspection of documents are more effective in this urt than in the mufassal. At any rate let us hope so. But it is a some- hat expensive matter and I am not certain that by transfering the case to is Court the costs of the parties would not be largely added.'

It has been said that if there had been anything to complain of regarding e Original Side of the High Court, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce would ve been the first to raise its voice. But I ask in all seriousness, to the mem- rs of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce whose President and Vice-President e on this Council, if the Original Side of the High Court was cheap and peditious, and efficient what made them constitute an Arbitration Tribunal their own for the disposal of their own cases. To them, as has been justly id, in the question of the establishment of a City Civil Court for Calcutta is academic interest. The poor suitors of Calcutta want to have a cheap ibunal of their own for the redress of their wrongs. Why grudge them is boon? The European mercantile community and the trading bodies of lcutta can hardly be said to be in touch with the owners of small landed operties in Calcutta who would be benefited materially by the proposed urt.

It has been said that the Press of Calcutta has never raised its voice gainst the heavy cost and dilatoriness of the Original Side of the High Court, r has it advocated the establishment of a City Court for Calcutta. nce the subject has been before this Council, various articles have peared in some of the leading newspapers of this Presidency both Indian d Anglo-Indian, generally in support of my proposal. The *Bangabasi* a series of articles supported my proposal. The *Capital* and the *nglishman* have been advocating the establishment of a City Court for alcutta at least since the year 1912. The *Indian Mirror* the *usalman*, the *Nayak* the *Hitabadi* and other vernacular papers have lso supported my proposal.

It has been urged in opposition to my resolution for the establishment a cheap machinery for poor suitors where the dual system of solicitors d counsel should be done away with, and where barristers, vakils and licitors will have the equal right of audience, that in mufassal Courts nior pleaders are engaged to assist senior pleaders. That may be so, but hat of those who cannot afford to pay for both a senior and a junior leader, who can only afford to have their work done by a junior pleader. A reat deal has been said by my friends, the members of the Bar, how the dual ystem of having both a counsel and a solicitor in a case is necessary, that it the basis of the English judicial system which is the best in the world. I ink the members of the Bar are aware of the fact that the jurisdiction of e County Courts in England has been gradually extended, that these courts n try suits up to Rs. 7,500 of the following nature, viz., (*a*) account or admi- istration, (*b*) trusts, (*c*) foreclosure or redemption, (*d*) specific performance,) under the Trustees Relief Acts and other cognate Acts, (*f*) to maintenance d advancement of infants, (*g*) dissolution or winding up of partnership d (*h*) relief against fraud or mistake. The County Courts have also juris- iction to deal with cases where the value of lands, tenements or the rent ayable in respect thereof does not exceed £100 per annum, *i.e.*, property orth Rs. 30,000 taking the value at 20 times the annual rental. The dual ystem of having both a counsel and a solicitor is not compulsory in a case ied in a County Court—a solicitor can act and plead. And there is now a

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County Court for the City of London. How, after this, my friends can oppose the establishment of a County Court or a City Civil Court or whatever name you may choose to give it for Calcutta and quote Lord Halsbury and others to prove the necessity for the appointment in all cases of both a solicitor and a counsel for the perpetuating of the dual system, I for my part fail to see. There is nothing within the charmed circle of the Mahratta Ditch which justifies the opposition to the establishment of a City Court for Calcutta. Why should not there be a gradation of Courts in Calcutta when there are such courts throughout India and also in England. My Lord, time does not permit me to reply seriatim to the arguments advanced by the Bar Association against my proposal. It is, however, curious that two separate and independent replies should have been given by the members of the Bar. I think the Vakils' Association in their letter to Your Lordship's Government have tried to meet some of the arguments, and it is for Your Lordship's Government to compare the facts and figures given by each of them, to see for yourself if the mufassal Courts are not really cheaper and more expeditious than the Original Side of the High Court.

The Bar Association have made much of the traditions of the English Bar, but I am sorry opinions differ so widely in this respect. Lord Macaulay, himself a member of the English Bar, said, 'No Mahratta invasion had ever spread through the Province such dismay as this inroad of English Lawyers; all the injustice of former oppressors, Asiatic and European appeared as a blessing compared with the justice of the Supreme Court.' This was said by Macaulay more than three quarters of a century ago. I must however say that I do not wholly share these extreme views of Lord Macaulay, but the public opinion gathered after three quarters of a century seems to justify to a great extent his remarks.

In their reply, the Bar Association quotes the following passage from the speech of Sir Griffith Evans in the Supreme Council at the passing of the Madras City Civil Court. 'The necessity for this legislation (if it is necessary) must depend on the peculiar circumstances of Madras as such a measure would in my opinion be wholly out of question for Calcutta.' It was the question of the establishment of a City Court for Madras which was then on the anvil of the Supreme Council—not the establishment of a City Court for Calcutta. What prompted him to speak then about the establishment of a City Court for Calcutta is perhaps not far to see. My friends the members of the Calcutta Bar were vigilant about their own interests from that time and Sir Griffith Evans was only their spokesman. He was not and was never recognized as a person representing popular views or even the views of the public of Calcutta.

My Lord, there is a reference in the reply of the Bar Association showing the dilatoriness of execution proceedings in mufassal Courts in which I myself was a party. I think it only fair to explain the facts and circumstances. It is no doubt a fact that I had a decree for about two lakhs of rupees against a gentleman who is a near relation of mine. Two Lieutenant-Governors, successive members of the Board of Revenue, Commissioners of the Burdwan Division and Collectors of the District of Hooghly tried to save the judgment-debtor—the scion of a most respected zamindar family of Bengal who had given all he had to save people from ruin. Courts of Justice naturally gave time whenever applications were made on his behalf either by himself or by the Court of Wards which had charge of his estate to see if the estate could be saved. I never executed my decree against him and he never opposed the execution either of my decree or the decree of any other decree-holder. It was absolutely impossible for me to execute my decree against my relation and cause his properties to be sold and hence I had to sell it at a loss of Rs. 37,000.

I have not had time to test all the details of the statements given by the various associations in their replies, but I am sorry to see that having

got all the papers of the case before them, the Incorporated Law Society should have made such inaccurate and incorrect statements with regard to the case of Lolit Mohan Ghose and others *versus* Promotha Nath Dey and others cited by me in moving my resolution. This is the only case about which I have been able to make proper inquiries. I stated that the costs of the plaintiff was about Rs. 890. It now appears that the costs amounted to Rs. 1,980—the charges of solicitors alone being Rs. 1,083-10, in fact the costs in the Original Side amounted to more than double of what I had stated. The statement of Babu Lalit Mohan Ghose, one of the plaintiffs, shews the real state of things, the out-of-pocket costs alone amounted to nearly Rs. 860.

My Lord, it has been insinuated that I have brought forward this resolution in the interests of the vakils of the High Court to whose rank I have the honour to belong. Your Lordship must have by this time been able to gauge the real feeling of the representatives of the different constituencies in Your Lordship's Council, of the Indian Public of Calcutta, to ascertain if the opinion is not in favour of a City Court for Calcutta, whether at least a radical reform in the Original Side of the High Court is not necessary. The simple fact that the establishment of a City Court for Calcutta may be of some advantage to the vakils while it may confer great benefit to the poor suitors of Calcutta has not deterred me from bringing forward my resolution before Your Lordship's Council.

I am really very sorry at the attitude of some of my friends in this Council who have opposed my resolution. Some of them have always been the chosen champions of the popular cause, of popular rights and privileges; they have always raised their powerful voice against the oppressor's wrong, the poor man's sufferings. They have always advocated for justice to the poor but now when a proposition is brought forward to bring justice to the door and within the means of the poor they are against the poor. But My Lord, even Homer nods.

The argument generally put forward against the establishment of the City Court for Calcutta is that the High Court will be weakened. I think the argument is fallacious. The Calcutta High Court is a chartered High Court. Its power of superintendence over the proposed City Court which will be a Court subordinate to it will be the same as it has over district courts. The power of the High Court given to it under the charter remains in tact. Sir Philip Hutchins anticipated this argument when introducing his Bill for a City Civil Court for Madras in the Supreme Council and he said, 'How the dignity or the independence of the Judges can be impaired by simply furnishing an auxiliary tribunal to relieve them of such cases as they do not think it desirable to call up for trial before themselves, has not been explained, and is, as I frequently submitted, incapable of explanation.'

There is another fact which I ought to mention. Have not there been established in Calcutta Courts such as the Land Acquisition Court and the Improvement Trust Tribunal for the trial of cases valued not only below Rs. 10,000 but even lakhs and lakhs of rupees? Is it not a fact that we owe it to our hon'ble friend Sir Satyendra Sinha as Law Member of the Governor-General's Council the insertion of the clause in the Calcutta Improvement Trust Act that a vakil should also be allowed to be the President of the Trust Tribunal? My Lord, no cry was then raised against curtailing the dignity of the High Court and plundering the ancient traditions of the dear Bar of England.

It has been suggested by some of the public bodies that we must first attempt a radical reformation of the Original Side of the High Court. But that Court is not subordinate to and is not to be dictated to by Your Lordship's Government. The only alternative left for Your Lordship's Government is to establish a separate and independent Tribunal."

[*Division list taken.*]

A division was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes—13

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray
,, ,, Raja Hrishikesh Laha, C.I.I
,, ,, Nawab Saiyd Hossain Haider Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur
,, ,, Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq
,, ,, Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, C.I.I
,, ,, Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur.
,, ,, Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan
,, ,, Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur
,, ,, Babu Upendra Lal Ray
,, ,, Maulvi Musharraf Hussain
,, ,, Raja Dinendra Narayan Ray
,, ,, Nawab Saiyd Nawab Ali Chaudhuri Khan Bahadur
,, ,, Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan

Noes—10

The Hon'ble Mr. H. J. Hilary
,, ,, Dr. Nilratan Sarkar
,, ,, Mr. Golam Hossein Cassim Ariff
,, ,, Babu Surendra Nath Banerji
,, ,, Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, C.I.E.
,, ,, Raja Shoshi Kanta Acharyya Chaudhuri Bahadur
,, ,, Mr. W. T. Grieve
,, ,, Mr. E. H. Bray
,, ,, Mr. F. H. Stewart, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti

The following Members were absent :—

The Hon'ble Mr. J. C. Twidell.
,, ,, Mr. B. C. Mitra.
,, ,, Col. W. R. Edwards.
,, ,, Mr. C. H. Pompas.
,, ,, Maulvi Mazharul Anwar Chaudhuri.
,, ,, Rai Prasanna Kumar Ray Bahadur.
,, ,, Sir Satyendra Prasanna Sinha, Kt.
,, ,, Maharaja Jagadindra Nath Ray.
,, ,, Raja Mahendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri
,, ,, Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, Amir-ul-Omrah, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.
,, ,, Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur.
,, ,, Mr. R. Glen

The following Members abstained from voting :—

The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.
,, ,, Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda.
,, ,, Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. J. G. Cumming, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. J. H. Kerr, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. H. L. Stephenson, C.I.E.
,, ,, Mr. H. F. Samman.
,, ,, Mr. H. H. Green.
,, ,, Mr. F. A. A. Cowley.
,, ,, Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, C.V.O.
,, ,, Rai Priya Nath Mukherji Bahadur.
,, ,, Mr. C. F. Payne.
,, ,, Mr. W. W. Hornell
,, ,, Mr. F. J. Monahan.
,, ,, Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur.
,, ,, Mr. G. A. Bayley.
,, ,, Mr. A. W. C. Chaplin.

The result of the division being Ayes 13, Noes 10, the motion was carried.

The President's Address.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT said:—

"The time has once again come round when not only custom but my own wish leads me to thank you for the help you have given me, and to congratulate you—not so much on what you have done in the way of legislation as on the manner in which you have done it. It was not a large programme which Government put before you—we have only passed four Acts. Each of these Acts is, I believe, for the good of Bengal. If I did not believe that, they would not have been introduced. But what, more than anything else, makes me sanguine of their usefulness is that I know that these Acts, while taking their present shape, were all subject to your criticism. No one who compares the text of the Bills which we introduced in this House with the text of the Acts which go out from it, can doubt the reality of the share which the Additional Members of my Council have in making the laws which we pass. It is, I think, only by making such a comparison that we can arrive at a true appreciation of the extent of that share. We often argue in this Chamber among ourselves. We often vote. Government sometimes refuses amendments. Government sometimes accepts them as they stand, or incorporates their spirit though in a different form. All this gives to any one who noticed it, some idea of the help which those, who are, I think, rather too apt to speak of themselves as the Opposition, give to the Executive Government. But it is only those who make the comparison which I have suggested who fully realise the nature of that help, for it is only they who can appreciate how much help is given in committee. Help in committee is too often forgotten. I think that if any one who makes that comparison will go on to make a similar comparison of the text of the Bills introduced, and with that of the Acts passed by Government in Legislative bodies in other countries, he will be surprised to find how much assistance the Governor of Bengal receives from the non-official Additional Members of his Council. The comparison certainly makes me hopeful in view of what I believe will inevitably be the tendency of political growth. But it is that comparison which makes me think you do not speak accurately when you refer to yourselves as an Opposition. It is difficult to compare things so different as the forms of Government here and in England, but I am inclined to think that the nearest, indeed the only approach to an Opposition in the English sense to be found in the Government of an Indian Presidency, is sometimes the Governor himself.

I would like to refer briefly to one incident which has not called forth much attention. Not long ago my friend and colleague, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shams-ul-Huda, presided throughout a sitting of this Council. That was, I believe, the first occasion on which an Indian gentleman has occupied the President's chair in any Indian Legislative Council. I am glad that Bengal has again set an example.

Now, gentlemen, I want to thank you for the work you have done outside the Council Chamber. I know how much Hon'ble Members have striven during the anxious months since last August to render the task of Government easier. We have had our trials—not so acute certainly, as in some parts of the Empire. Still we have had trials. There has been dislocation of trade, there has been suffering caused by the difficulty of obtaining some much needed commodities, and by the absence of demand for other commodities on the sale of which men depend for livelihood. There have been rumours full of terrors to men of limited experience; there has been the pain which comes to those who find their most sacred ideas assailed from the outside. These things might easily have led to movements which would have been regrettable and difficult to quell. I know how, in your different ways, you tried to keep public opinion steady, how you contradicted foolish rumours,

stopped alarm, and sympathetically guided the thoughts of your co-religionists. I thank you for all this, but I do more; I confidently ask you to go on helping Government as each of you finds he conscientiously can. In no country at no time can we expect everybody to be on the side of law and order. There will always be some people who, whatever be their motive, are anxious to upset the state of affairs which we believe is for the true good of India. It will be strange if such persons do not seize any opportunity which war may give them to make their presence felt. Many sorts of crime—not unnaturally—have shown a marked increase lately, and this is true in an especial degree of that kind of crime which as we all most sincerely deplore, is often associated, however unfairly, with the name of Bengal in the minds of people in many parts of the world. That kind of crime which is spoken of—to an undue extent I think and not always accurately—as political crime; crime which is committed by persons of a class which one would expect to be actuated by some higher motive than the mere vulgar desire for plunder. Many of you have been reluctant—I myself am very reluctant—to believe that such crime can be widespread, but it has been lately made very clear that it does exist. It is the duty of Government to repress that form of crime, and it is the duty of Government to try to remove any cause which they may think brings it about. That is the duty of Government now, and may continue to be the duty of Government, perhaps, for a long time, for it is not a duty which can be completely performed in a day. But at present it is especially and immediately the duty of Government to take precautions against any danger which may affect the essential administration or safety of the country. Hon'ble Members, I am sure, carefully weighed the remarks made in another Council lately by those responsible for the Government of the whole of India; and I am sure Hon'ble Members felt that the Government of India, believing what it tells us it does believe, only did its duty when it carried through a measure which it expects will deal efficiently with a real danger.

I have heard or read the views Hon'ble Members of this house have publicly expressed, so I know how strongly you desire to grapple with the danger. We know the nature of the measure which the Government of India has thought right to pass. We know the rules, though some of us may not as yet have mastered them, under which the Act is to be carried out, and we know that it will be with the Local Government to administer the Act. We read what Sir Reginald Craddock definitely said about Bengal. Hon'ble Members must recognise that if I and my colleagues share in Sir Reginald's belief, it will be our duty without loss of time to consider how the provisions of this Act are to be enforced in Bengal. Gentlemen, my colleagues and I do believe that Sir Reginald Craddock had good grounds for what he said. My colleagues and I have the honour of Bengal at heart, and we shall not shrink from administering the Act wherever we think fit and I hope, gentlemen, you have enough confidence in us to believe that, in doing so, we shall steadily keep the cause of justice before us.

Gentlemen, you have, I am glad to say, shown your interest in many things. No Hon'ble Member can, I think, complain that in the Budget discussion, he had not full scope to refer to all he wished to refer to. Two points were raised yesterday to which I would like briefly to refer. My hon'ble friend, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji, complained of the publication of the Report of the Administration Committee. The publication of that report was largely due to myself. So if my hon'ble friend wants to blame any one he must blame me. I could easily have delayed, I might perhaps have forbidden the publication: instead I urged that the report should be published. And, gentlemen, I am unrepentant. I knew perfectly well that some of my friends in Bengal would have as little pleasure in reading that report as some other of my friends have in reading the articles which appear from day to day in certain journals in which also reference is occasionally made to controversies which belong to the past. I may have

nade a mistake, and I shall not complain if any one tells me that he thinks have made a mistake. As a Governor with no previous experience of India may perhaps make mistakes more easily than any member of my Council vould. But I would like to say in my defence that I have only two years of ffice left, little enough time in which to do anything—in any case, too little o do more than a very small portion of what I should like to do. When I dvocated the publishing of that report I hoped to save time. I wanted to et the people concerned know exactly what advice was given to me, so that hey might, if they chose, tell me in what way the advice seemed to them vrong. There are many people in Bengal who have not as many opportuities of personally enlightening me as the Hon'ble Member has, and I assure im that the publication of this report did give to some of these people the hance, which I am sure he does not grudge to them, and of which they have reely availed themselves, of putting their views clearly before me.

The other point to which I wish to refer is the police—to that also my on'ble friend particularly drew our attention. My colleagues and I are horougly alive to the criticisms to which the Hon'ble Member referred. To overnment more than to any one it is of advantage that there should be onfidence between the police and the public. I know that the present state f affairs satishes no one. I know that the police themselves are not content with it. I know that there are Europeans, and that there are Indians, who like are indignant with the police on grounds which, if they are true, amply warrant indignation. But I know that many men with ampler experience than I have, say that things are improving. Some of you said so yourselves yesterday—I know how easy it is to exaggerate. I know that grave charges have been repeated to me which I found on investigation were only based on rumours and could not be substantiated. I know, too, that there are Europeans and that there are Indians who by no means think the police perfect, but who recognise the bravery and the devotion which has been shown by ndividual Indian police officers. I feel proud myself—I think no one who ares for Bengal can help being proud—of the way in which some of our olice officers have knowingly taken their lives in their hands, and have done heir duty without shrinking from consequences which they felt were almost ertain to be fatal. These men have given the lie in no uncertain way to the ccusation that the Bengali is a coward.

For the honour of Bengal it is most desirable that better relations be-ween the police and the public should prevail, and that the police should ome to be looked on as a real force on the side of justice. But all I want to ay just now is that I intend, and my colleagues intend, to do our best to peed up such improvement as is taking place, and to bring about any further hanges which seem likely to do good. We have already taken one step which we believe will help us in dealing rightly with this difficult question, nd which will, I hope, when it comes to be known, be looked on as an earnest f our genuine determination to try to find a right solution.

Adjournment.

Now gentlemen, I must ask you to forgive me for having kept you so ong, and I declare the Council adjourned *sine die*."

A. W. WATSON,

Secy. to the Government of Bengal
and Secy. to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA.
The 28th April, 1915.

B. S. Press—27-5-1915—185J—508—C. A. P.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861, 1892, and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Durbar Hall in new Government House at Dacca on Monday, the 26th July, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble COL. W. R. EDWARDS, C.B., C.M.G.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. LANG.

The Hon'ble MR. J. DONALD.

The Hon'ble MR. L. BIRLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. BIRKMYRE.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Lang, the Hon'ble Mr. Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. Birley, the Hon'ble Mr. Cowley, the Hon'ble Mr. Twidell and the Hon'ble Mr. Birkmyre made an oath or affirmation of their allegiance to the Crown.

The PRESIDENT said :—

"GENTLEMEN,

Before we begin our business, I should like to say that I am glad to preside, and to see so many of you here to-day. You all know the different views held about sittings of Council in Dacca, and you know the conditions which led me to call a meeting here last year. I was very sorry when I could not preside over that meeting—owing to those sad and unforeseen circumstances which altered so many of our plans. But I believe the meeting served a useful purpose. I have, therefore, again summoned you to Dacca in the full belief that you will again do good work. I thank you, both officials and non-officials, for having come in such numbers. I know it was not convenient to all of you; but you have come of your own free will, and because you want to show your friendliness to your fellow members who are anxious to hold meetings here from time to time. I am glad of this renewed evidence of the unity of the Presidency of Bengal, and I feel sure you will none of you regret having come to learn for yourselves a little about Dacca and the great part it hopes to play in the development of Bengal.

We will proceed now to our business. With regard to questions, I shall, in virtue of my power under rule 12 of the Question Rules and in order to meet what is I believe the convenience of members, ask my hon'ble colleague, Mr. Beatson Bell, to make a formal statement after questions are over about a matter on which several questions have been put. I tell you this now in order that any of you may be reassured who has doubts as to its being in order when he hears a member of Government refer to 'a statement', though none of the Council rules provides for the making of 'statements'.

It may be convenient also for me to tell you now that at the end of business to-day I may quite possibly adjourn the house not to a particular day as is customary, but *sine die*. If so, it will only be in the hope of meeting the convenience of members. There will be a meeting in Calcutta early in September. A day was fixed by me for this—the 6th—in conformity with which my own engagements have been made. But I learned a day or two ago that this date does not suit all of you, and a suggestion has been made to me to change it. I do not yet know whether a change is possible which would not be even more inconvenient; but I shall do my best, and, as soon as I can, will let Hon'ble Members know how it seems to me best to decide."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

*1. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the reported cases of outrage upon women in the Jamalpur subdivision of the Mymensingh district ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken or are taking to prevent the recurrence of such outrages ?

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR replied :—

"(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A full and careful inquiry has been held by the District Magistrate. Six cases have been brought to light. Particulars are given in the memorandum which is laid on the table. The local officers are fully alive to the necessity of taking prompt and vigorous action for the suppression of crime of this nature."

MEMORANDUM REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE REPLY.

"1. One Mohim Chandra Chanda, a resident of village Kursha, lodged a complaint before the Subdivisional Officer, Jamalpur, on the 22nd April, 1915, that his sister and another girl who was living with him had been abducted by some Muhammadans. It was stated that on the 12th April a burglary was committed in the complainant's house and that on the following day the two girls were found to be missing. On the 25th April two Muhammadans came to the complainant and promised to produce the girls on payment of Rs. 25. The complainant agreed and paid Rs. 5 in advance. The girls were then produced and the complainant paid Rs. 10 more, promising to pay the balance later, but as he was going off with the two girls, he was attacked by seven or eight persons and the two girls were taken away from him.

The Subdivisional Officer issued warrants for the arrest of the accused and for the production of the girls. The warrants could not, however, be executed, and proclamation and attachment were ordered. Every effort of the police to produce the girls was unsuccessful. Subsequently on the information furnished by the mukhtar of the complainant, one girl was discovered on the 24th May and the other on the 1st June. The statements of the girls show that on the day of occurrence, while watching a fire that had broken out in the neighbourhood, they were carried off by force by seven or eight Muhammadans, who ravished them at intervals and removed them from house to house to prevent their discovery by the police. Offers of *nika* marriage were made to them by the accused, which they declined. Six of the accused named have been arrested, and three absconders have been proclaimed and their property attached. Warrants were also issued for the arrest of a panchayat and another person in whose house the girls were alleged to have been secreted at different times.

Two cases are now under trial—one against the six persons arrested out of those named by the complainant, and the other against the panchayat and the owner of a house in which the girls are said to have been detained.

There are a large number of witnesses, but it is expected that the proceedings before the Magistrate will be concluded before the end of this month.

2. One Bhagan Muchi, a resident of Sherpur, complained against two other muchis and three Muhammadans, charging them with having abducted his wife. All the accused with the exception of Hachmania Sheikh, who is still absconding, were arrested and committed to the Sessions for trial on the 8th May, 1915. The two Muhammadans accused in this case were also committed to the Sessions in a separate case on the charge of abducting the wife of Hachmania Sheikh, the absconding accused in the first case. In both of these cases the accused have been acquitted by the Court of Sessions.

3. One Kunja Dassi lodged a complaint in court on the 21st April, 1915, to the effect that, on the 19th April, while she was sleeping with one Jadu Nath Patni whose mistress she is, several Muhammadans broke into the house, assaulted her and Jadu Nath severely, dragged her away, and took her to the houses of certain Muhammadans. She managed to escape

om them and was rescued by the village dafadar. It is recorded, however, t the Jamalpur thana that Jadu Nath lodged a different complaint there on ie 20th April. He stated that Kunja Dassi was seduced by him about ree years ago and that since then she had been living with him as his ife. He suspected her of having illicit connection with a neighbour named ogesh. On the night of the 19th April he woke up from his sleep and ound that she was not in bed with him. Suspecting that she was with Jogesh e went to the latter's house to demand her. A quarrel ensued between im and Jogesh in which the latter hit him with a *lathi*. The villagers earing the noise came and separated them. On his way to the thana he eard that Kunja Dassi had been traced in village Konabari, which is the illage of the Muhammadan accused named by Kunja Dassi.

The accused were committed to the Sessions and have been convicted nd sentenced to six years' rigorous imprisonment each. The Judge and the ury were of opinion that the head-constable made a false entry regarding ie information lodged at the police-station by Jadu Nath Patni.

Proceedings against the head-constable have been instituted.

4. Another case has been instituted by one Muhammadan against nother Muhammadan. The allegation in this case is that the wife was bducted by her own brothers and other relatives.

This case has since been settled amicably between the parties, and the ccused have been discharged.

5. A case was instituted in June by Sukni Peshakar against five luhammadans charging them with the abduction of her daughter Janaki.)ne of the accused alleges that the daughter is married to him and that she ras enticed away from him and induced to adopt the profession of her nother. He says that he instituted proceedings under section 498, Criminal 'rocedure Code, and recovered his wife and that Sukni's case has been rought against him and four other men with the object of bringing him to erms. Janaki herself denies that she was abducted and supports her usband's version of the facts. The case is still under inquiry.

6. The latest case was instituted in June by a Muhammadan against hree Hindus complaining that when his wife was staying with his brother-n-law she was carried off by the three accused and ravished and kept for wo days after which she managed to escape. The three accused were rrested by the 8th of July and, as the woman has fallen ill, no evidence has ot been recorded. This case is distinguished from others by the fact that it lleges the abduction of a Muhammadan woman by Hindus."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

*2. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of supplying the members of the Bengal Legislative Council with copies of Government Reports and other similar Government publications issued by them from time to time?

The Hon'ble MR. DONALD replied :—

"Besides Acts, Bills and papers relating thereto and Proceedings of he Bengal Legislative Council, copies of the *Calcutta Gazette*, Bengal Civil List and Bengal Administration Report are regularly supplied to all Members. Government are considering the question of supplying copies of other Govern-

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Laying out of Park in the Fringe Area (Shambazar)

*3. (*a*) Have the Government received a communication from the Calcutta Improvement Trust regarding the laying out of a Park in the Fringe Area (Shambazar) for use as a playground and also as a recreation ground?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what orders have been passed on the said communication?

The Hon'ble MR. DONALD replied :—

(*a*) "Government have received a communication from the Calcutta Improvement Trust regarding the laying out of a Park in the Fringe Area (Shambazar).

(*b*) The matter is still under the consideration of Government."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Transfer of site of the Court for Juvenile offenders

*4. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of transferring the Court for Juvenile Offenders from its present site in Lower Circular Road to a position nearer the centre of the town?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"Until this question was received no suggestion had been made to Government that the Court should be removed and consequently the question has not been considered: and in any case Government would not be in a position to consider the removal until near the year 1918, when the lease of the present building expires."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Inconvenience felt by the Honorary Presidency Magistrates in finding their way to their Court rooms.

*5. (*a*) Are the Government aware of the inconvenience felt by the Honorary Presidency Magistrates of the new Central Police Court, Calcutta, in having to find their way to the Court rooms by the same staircase as that used by the general public?

(*b*) Is it not the case that formerly in the Lal Bazar Police Court a separate private staircase was provided for the Stipendiary and Honorary Presidency Magistrates?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that in the New Central Police Court, Calcutta, the Honorary Presidency Magistrates sitting on the first floor have invariably to elbow their way to the Court room through the crowd?

(*d*) Is it not a fact that this was brought to the notice of the Chief Presidency Magistrate?

(*e*) Are the Government taking any steps to remove the inconvenience complained of?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"Government are aware that on the opening of the Central Police Court, some inconvenience was felt by both Honorary and Stipendiary Magistrates in the matter of access to their Court rooms. The inconvenience has lately been removed partly by structural alterations and partly by a rearrangement of rooms. The Honorary Magistrates have now been given a room which is accessible by the Magistrates' private entrance."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

*6. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state in full the terms and scope of the inquiry entrusted to Mr. Gourlay in connection with the Calcutta Police ?

(*b*) Is any public evidence proposed to be taken in the said inquiry ?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"Mr. Gourlay has been deputed to compile a history of the Bengal and of the Calcutta Police forces and their relations to one another. He has also been asked to examine the recommendations of the Police Commission of 1903 so far as they affect Bengal and to report how far the recommendations concerning the *personnel*, training and pay of the Police force have been carried out successfully or tried and found by experience to have failed. He will also consider the main proposals of Government made since the Commission and report the extent to which they have been put in force, found successful or unsuccessful, and what remains to be done. Mr. Gourlay will not take formal evidence, but has discussed questions connected with his inquiry with many persons, both officials and non-officials."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

*7. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the people of Calcutta frequently find it difficult to get the local *thanas* to record their complaints in their diaries or to take up investigations, and that in view of such difficulty the people invariably avoid resorting to the police and rather put up with offences like theft, robbery and depredations of *budmashes* ?

(*b*) If so, what action are Government taking to remedy this grievance ?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"Government have received no complaints of this nature and only one instance has been brought to the notice of the Commissioner of Police within the last eighteen months. In that instance, which occurred in April last, the Sub-Inspector who refused to record a complaint was degraded to the rank of Head Constable.

Government would welcome the co-operation of the public in bringing to the notice of the Commissioner of Police, without delay, any instances of a similar nature."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

*8. Will the Government be pleased to state what steps, if any, they have taken to improve the position and prospects of subordinate Indian police officers in the Calcutta Police from the rank of constables upwards ?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"The following comparative statement shows the improvements effected after 1905 :—

	Before 1905.	After 1905.
	Rs.	Rs.
Pay of Inspectors ...	100—250	200—300*
„ Sub-Inspectors ...	80—90	125—175*
„ Head Constables ...	14—20	17½—25
„ Constables ...	8—10	10—13

* *Plus* conveyance allowance

In 1914 the pay of all grades of Constables and Head Constables was raised by Re. 1. Six new appointments of a rank corresponding to that of Deputy Superintendent in the Provincial Police have recently been sanctioned. The posts carry a salary of Rs. 400, Rs. 450 and Rs. 500 with free quarters and a conveyance allowance of Rs. 50 per month."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

Filling of vacancies in the clerical establishment of the office of Director of Agriculture.

*9. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state how many vacancies there have been in the clerical establishment (including the newly-created seed-store clerkships) in the office of the Director of Agriculture in Calcutta, during the last twelve months, and how many Muhammadans and how many Hindus were appointed to fill those vacancies?

(*b*) Was one of those vacancies caused by the transfer of a Muhammadan clerk to some mufassal station, and was this vacancy filled up by a Muhammadan or was a Hindu appointed?

(*c*) Is it a fact that so long as the post of Librarian in the office of the department was temporary it was held by a Muhammadan, but that as soon as the post was made permanent it was given to a Hindu?

(*d*) How many vacancies have there been in the posts of clerks during the last twelve months in the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Dacca, and how many Muhammadans and how many Hindus were appointed to fill those vacancies?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

(*a*) "There have been six vacancies during the last 12 months, and they have been filled by five Hindus and one Muhammadan.

(*b*) One vacancy was caused by the transfer of a Muhammadan and it was filled by the appointment of a Hindu.

(*c*) The post of Librarian was never a temporary post. It was temporarily filled by a Muhammadan, who took leave on account of ill-health. The post is now held by a Hindu who has not been confirmed in the appointment.

(*d*) There have been two vacancies in the posts of clerks in the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Dacca during the last 12 months: they have been filled by Hindus."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

*10. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the serious damage to crops and house property in parts of the districts of Burdwan and Birbhum by the annual floods caused by the river Ajai?

(*b*) Is it a fact that the intensity of these floods has been considerably increased since the construction of the Barharwa-Bandel Railway line?

(*c*) Are the Government contemplating any measures with a view to prevent or mitigate the ravages of these annual floods?

The Hon'ble MR. COWLEY replied :—

(*a*) "The damage done by annual floods in the Ajai river has been under the consideration of Government from as far back as 1836.

(*b*) We have nothing to show that the intensity of the floods in the Ajai river has been increased by the construction of the Barharwa-Bandel Railway line. On the contrary, gauge-readings at Satkahonia show that the highest recorded flood in the Ajai river occurred on the 15th July, 1899. It may be noted that the East Indian Railway line have added no less than 684 running feet of waterway under the railway embankment, between the Ajai and the Kandoor rivers to the north, subsequent to the construction of the Barharwa-Bandel line.

(*c*) The information before Government is to the effect that any attempt to embank the Ajai river with a view to protect the adjoining country from submersion would be a mistake and would considerably obstruct the natural drainage of the country. This question was fully discussed in 1860 and orders were then issued for the entire abandonment of the Ajai embankments with the exception of the 4 D Schedule embankments 27, 28, 29 and 30."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI :—

*11. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state how many Income-tax Assessors there are in Calcutta, and how many of them are Hindus and how many of them are Muhammadans?

(*b*) When filling the post of an Income-tax Assessor in Calcutta, which fell vacant in 1913, were there not qualified Muhammadan candidates from whom selection could have been made?

(*c*) Did this post fall vacant again in the beginning of 1915?

(*d*) If so, was the vacancy advertised?

(*e*) Has the vacancy been filled up by a Hindu or by a Muhammadan?

The Hon'ble Mr. DONALD replied :—

"(*a*) There are nine Income-tax Assessors in Calcutta, of whom five are Hindus, three Anglo-Indians and one Muhammadan.

(*b*) When the post of an Income-tax Assessor fell vacant in 1913, there were two Muhammadan candidates. One of them was not qualified. The application from the other candidate was considered in filling the vacancy.

(*c*), (*d*) and (*e*) A vacancy occurred in February, 1915. This vacancy was not advertised. It was filled by the promotion of a Hindu gentleman from among the District Assessors.

It may be mentioned for the information of the Hon'ble Member that vacancies in the Calcutta Assessorships are not advertised. The usual method of appointment is by promotion from among the District Assessors. The interests of all communities are considered in making appointments. Out of 21,094 assessees paying a total tax of over Rs. 43,00,000 less than 1,000 are Muhammadan assessees, and they contribute only 1·6 per cent of the total tax paid."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR:—

Damage Comilla town floods caused the river Gumt

*12. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the recent breaches made by floods in several places in the banks of the river Gumti, whereby considerable damage has been caused in the neighbourhood of the town of Comilla?

(*b*) Is it not a fact that, before the adjustment of the two provinces, the attention of the late Eastern Bengal and Assam Government was drawn, in its Legislative Council, to the likelihood of these floods occurring?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state the reason for the apparent delay in coming to a decision in regard to the Gumti Embankment question and, in any case, state what measures they have taken or are taking to prevent the recurrence of the floods?

The Hon'ble Mr. COWLEY replied:—

(*a*) "Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The question referred to in (*b*) was asked by the Hon'ble Member in the Council meeting held on the 18th March, 1912. He was then informed that during the past 40 years several inquiries had been held under the orders of Government with regard to the Gumti embankment and that the question of permanently controlling the floods by regulating and diverting them down streams on either bank, before the river leaves the hills, was then under investigation by the Tippera Raj. The investigation made in 1912 under the Tippera Raj yielded no result, consequently an Assistant Engineer of the Public Works Department was deputed in the cold weather of 1912-13 to investigate this question in more detail. The report was received by this Government in April 1913 and was not considered conclusive. It was subsequently decided by the Chief Engineer, Lieutenant Colonel Joly de Lothinière, that it was desirable to ascertain if it was possible to control the floods of the Gumti river by the construction of storage reservoirs in the hills from which it takes its rise, and it was the intention of this Government to depute an Assistant Engineer to make inquiries into this subject in the cold weather of 1914-15. Unfortunately, it has not yet been possible to depute an officer to this special duty, but in May 1915 the Hon'ble Member in charge inspected the embankments along with the Chief Engineer, the Superintending Engineer and the Manager of the Tippera Raj. The embankments are the property of the Tippera Raj and the repairs are carried out by the Raj under an agreement between the Raja of Hill Tippera and the Government of Bengal. At the time of this inspection the embankments appeared generally

to be in a fair state of preservation, and the Chief Engineer gave such instructions as appeared to be necessary. Within about a month, however, an unusually early and unusually severe flood occurred, and in spite of the strenuous efforts of the local officers the breaches in question took place At the time of the recent visit of the Hon'ble Member in charge most of the breaches with one important exception had been repaired; it has since been reported that all breaches have been completely repaired with the result that the state of the surrounding country is now normal. It should be explained that the breaches took place on the right bank, not on the left bank. The town of Comilla was therefore unaffected, the area damaged being the fields of the tenants of the Raj. The following figures, supplied by the Manager of the Raj estate, show the expenditure incurred by the Raja within recent years upon the repairs of the embankments :—

Year	Rs
1910-11	10,253
1911-12	15,424
1912-13	19,575
1913-14	15,960
1914-15	12,098

This answer deals only with the portion of the embankments which lies in the Raj estate and not with the portion, some miles lower down, which lies in the Ganga Mandal estate."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

*13. (*a*) Are the Government aware of the present distress under which the people of the district of Tippera are suffering owing to the floods caused by the overflowing of the Gumti river ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the advisability of prohibiting all private exports of food-grain from the district of Tippera, until the people of that district recover from the present crisis and the prices of food-grain again become normal ?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

"(*a*) Government are aware of the existence of distress in Tippera district. A general statement on the subject will be made by the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell.

(*b*) To prohibit the export of food-grain from Tippera district would be contrary to the policy of the Government of India, and the proposal cannot be entertained. Moreover Burma rice is plentiful at moderate price and *aus* is now coming into the market."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

*14. (*a*) Are the Government aware of the fact that cholera and small-pox broke out lately in a virulent form in and about the town of Comilla ?

(*b*) What was the cause of these epidemics ?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) they are taking to check the periodical return of these epidemics ?

(*d*) Are the Government considering the desirability of introducing the "Drainage Scheme" in the Comilla Municipality ?

The Hon'ble MR. DONALD replied :—

"(*a*) There have been limited outbreaks both of small-pox and cholera in and around Comilla this year. Reports have been received of the following cases :—

Month.				SMALL-POX		CHOLERA	
				Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
March	...	...	...	14	2	9	5
April	...	...	...	65	2	12	11
May	...	...	...	5	5	24	19
June	...	...	...	3	3*	*Nil*	*Nil*

* These three deaths occurred outside the town

(*b*) Cholera is endemic in Eastern Bengal. Cholera outbreaks in the town of Comilla will not be checked until a proper water-supply is introduced.

Small-pox was imported from Calcutta.

(*c*) The Tippera District Board entertains four Medical Officers for the purpose of checking outbreaks of cholera. The Municipal Commissioners of Comilla are considering a water-supply project.

Fourteen vaccinators were appointed by the Municipality after the outbreak of small-pox, with the result that the epidemic was speedily reduced.

(*d*) The Municipal Commissioners are considering the desirability of introducing a drainage scheme in the Comilla Municipality. The scheme has not yet been submitted to Government."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Alleged closing down of the technical schools in Presidency.

*15. (*a*) Are the Government aware that some of the technical schools in the Presidency are being closed down for lack of students?

(*b*) If so, are the Government considering the advisability of attracting boys by some method to join these institutions in larger numbers?

The Hon'ble MR. DONALD replied :—

(*a*) "Government are aware that there has been a decrease in the number of applicants for admission to the sub-overseer classes attached to various technical schools. The sub-overseer classes attached to the Barisal and Rangpur Schools have been closed and the Midnapur Technical School has been abolished.

(*b*) The sub-overseer classes are only concerned with the training of an inferior grade of Civil Engineers, and from recent investigations it appears that there is even now an overproduction of Civil Engineers generally and of this grade of Civil Engineers in particular. The problem is to devise a system of technical and industrial schools which will help the industrial development of the Presidency, and this is impossible unless each school is in vital touch with existing local industries. The problem is engaging the attention of Government."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Alleged distress in the districts of Noakhali and Tippera.

*16. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement on the following matters, namely :—

(*i*) the present extent and intensity of distress that prevails in the districts of Noakhali and Tippera;

(*ii*) the places in those districts particularly affected and the number of persons in need of, and those actually obtaining, relief;

(*iii*) the prospects of the *aus* and jute crops in Noakhali and Tippera and in other districts of Eastern Bengal;

(*iv*) the extent of injury done to crops and dwelling-houses by floods?

(*b*) Is it a fact that besides the agricultural and labouring population tl members of the poor *bhadralog* class in those districts are also gre sufferers?

(*c*) What steps have been taken by Government to reach this class persons?

(*d*) Is it a fact that deaths from starvation have taken place in tl district of Tippera?

(*e*) Is it a fact that a large number of people are without any employmer in the affected areas?

(*f*) Will the Government be pleased to state what measures they a taking in this connection?

(*g*) Is it a fact that the price of rice is on the increase in Eastern Benga particularly in the districts of Noakhali and Tippera?

(*h*) Are the Government considering the desirability of taking any speci measures to increase the supply of rice?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

"The answers to the several questions are contained in the genera statement on the situation in Noakhali and Tippera districts which will b made by the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

*17. (*a*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the recen house-searches by the Police at Serampur?

(*b*) Is it the case that the houses of several members of the Chhatra Serampur Defence Party were searched by the Police?

(*c*) Is it the case that no incriminating articles were found in any of th searches and that the information upon which the searches were made wa false?

(*d*) Is it the case that the Subdivisional Officer of Serampur congratu lated the Defence Party on their public spirit in helping to protect peopl against wrong-doers?

(*e*) Is it true that since the house-searches the Defence Party have stopped their work?

(*f*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they are taking in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"(*a*) and (*b*). The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) It is the case that no incriminating articles were found in any of the houses searched. Government are unable to say whether the information upon which the searches were made was true or false.

(*d*) The Subdivisional Officer expressed his appreciation of the public spirit of the members of the Defence Party.

(*e*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*f*) A full inquiry has been made into the facts of the case. It has been ascertained that there was nothing illegal in the procedure adopted by the Police, but Government are of opinion that the action taken was precipitate and that further inquiries should have been made before the warrants were applied for and issued. This view has been communicated to the officers concerned."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Case of Dr. Chandi Charan Ghosal and others

*18. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a case in which an Honorary Magistrate, Dr. Chandi Charan Ghosal, and two others were convicted by the Subdivisional Magistrate of Serampur, the former under section 114 of the Indian Penal Code, read with sections 225 and 853 of the said Code, and the latter under the said sections 225 and 853?

(*b*) Is it not the case that the Sessions Judge of Hooghly in quashing the convictions and setting aside the sentences passed a censure on the Konnagar Police and especially on the head-constable who lodged the first information?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken or are taking in connection with the conduct of the head-constable referred to in the judgment of the Sessions Judge?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

(*a*) "Yes.

(*b*) Yes; the Judge wrote: 'I would go further and say that the circumstances under which Dr. Ghosal was prosecuted reflect discredit upon the Konnagar Police and particularly upon the head constable who lodged the first information making allegations now found to be false.'

(*c*) An inquiry has been held into the case by the Commissioner and the Inspector-General of Police. It appears that the main facts of the case are as follows :—

On the 22nd February constable Chakori Singh arrested an orange seller in the Konnagar bazaar for obstructing the traffic. Some opposition was raised both by the orange seller and by the people in the bazaar. At this stage, Dr. Chandi Charan Ghosal drove up, and after an inquiry into the cause of the disturbance, told the people to take both the constable and the orange seller to the Subdivisional Magistrate. It is admitted that the constable was then assaulted by the crowd. The orange seller was convicted on the same day on his own admission under section 34 (*J*) of Act V of 1861. In the meantime one of the residents of Konnagar went to the town outpost and informed the head-constable on duty that the police had been assaulted in the bazaar. The head constable recorded the statement as a first information and forwarded it to the thana police. The head-constable is not an investigating officer and took no further part in the case. He was not therefore responsible for instituting the prosecution against Dr. Chandi Charan Ghosal, and the remarks in the judgment of the Sessions Judge on this point seem to have been made under some misapprehension. Proceedings against Dr. Chandi Charan Ghosal were instituted under the orders of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Serampur, under whose supervision the investigation was conducted. In deciding to send up the case for trial, the Assistant Superintendent appears to have been influenced by the fact that the constable was undoubtedly assaulted by the crowd and that the orange seller who was arrested for obstructing the traffic had been found guilty and fined. After a careful perusal of the records of the case, Government are not prepared to hold that the Assistant Superintendent was wrong in letting the case go before a Magistrate for trial, and they do not propose to take any further action in the matter."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Alleged official interference with recent Municipal elections at Barisal

*19. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in the recent Municipal elections at Barisal the Magistrate interfered with a view to influence the decision against Babu Kailas Chandra Sen?

(*b*) Is it not the case that the policy of Government is that there should be no official interference with popular elections, municipal or otherwise?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they are taking in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"(*a*) Mr. Strong, Magistrate of Bakarganj, wrote a private letter to the Manager of the Bauphal estate, expressing his opinion on the merits of Babu Kailash Chandra Sen as a Municipal Commissioner and suggesting that some other candidate should be put forward in his place.

(*b*) It is the policy of Government that there should be no official interference with popular elections, municipal or otherwise, though no orders upon the subject have been issued at any time.

(*c*) Government have recently issued a circular inviting the attention of Government officers, Executive and Judicial, to the fact that the policy of Government is as has been stated in the reply to the second part of the Hon'ble Member's questions, and in these circumstances they do not propose to take any further action in this matter."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Situation in the famine-stricken tracts in Eastern Bengal.

*20. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement as to the situation in the famine-stricken tracts in Eastern Bengal?

(*b*) In view of the statement made by the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell that the Bengal Government has only Rs. 10,000 in hand for loans, are they considering the desirability of moving the Government of India for a further grant for the relief of famine in Eastern Bengal?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

"The Hon'ble Member is referred to the statement which will be made by the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Decline of the city of Murshidabad

By the Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD :—

I. (*a*) Is it a fact that the city of Murshidabad is rapidly declining in population and also in importance as an industrial centre?

(*b*) If so, to what are these causes due?

(*c*) If the answer to clause (*a*) be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they are taking to save the city from further decay and impoverishment?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. DONALD was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The decline in the population of Murshidabad is due probably to the decline in its importance as an industrial centre, which began since the removal of the seat of Government to Calcutta. The diversion of the traffic from the Bhagirathi river to the Railway and the decay of the silk industry are understood to be the principal causes of the diminution of the importance of the place.

(*c*) No practicable proposal has been submitted by the Municipality or any other responsible authority for the improvement of public health in Murshidabad. If any such proposals are made they will receive the careful consideration of Government."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD :—

Extension of class-rooms in the Nawab Bahadur's Institution at Murshidabad.

II. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the unexpended balance, or surplus, of the funds provided for the management of the Nawab Bahadur's Institution at Murshidabad?

(*b*) If so, have Government considered the desirability of utilising this sum for the extension of class-rooms in the said institution?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. DONALD was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) & (*b*) So far as Government are aware there has been no unexpended balance, or surplus, of the funds provided for the management of the Nawab Bahadur's Institution at Murshidabad. The expenditure over 23 years has exceeded the provision which Government undertook to make."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Transfer of jurisdiction for trial of cert classes of mor suits from Sealc to Alipore.

III. (*a*) Is it the case that all suits of a Small Cause Court nature above the value of Rs. 100 and up to the value of Rs. 500, which used to be tried as money suits by the Munsifs at Sealdah, have been ordered to be instituted at Alipore to be tried by a Sub-Judge under the Small Cause Court procedure?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that this order of transfer has caused hardship to the litigant public and has also deprived them of the right of appeal?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there has been a falling-off in the number of such suits after the order of transfer as compared with the statistics of previous years?

(*d*) Are the Government considering the desirability of ordering such suits to be instituted before the Subordinate Judge of Sealdah instead of at Alipore?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "The change in jurisdiction was effected by Notification No. 1724 J., dated the 17th April, 1914, which was issued at the instance of the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court. The change affected only that portion of the Sealdah Munsifi, which lies outside the jurisdiction of the Small Cause Court at Sealdah.

(*b*) The Governor General in Council agrees with the Hon'ble Judges that the gain to the public by speedier disposal of cases and reduction of appeals will more than counterbalance any disadvantage arising from the change.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*d*) There is no Court of a Subordinate Judge proper at Sealdah. It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member refers to the Court of the Small Cause Court Judge whose jurisdiction is, as already pointed out, entirely separate from that in which the cases referred to fall. Inquiries which have been made show that the amount of work already performed by the Small Cause Court at Sealdah renders it impracticable to extend its jurisdiction as suggested.

As the High Court do not favour a change in the existing arrangements, Government are not disposed to move in the matter."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Extension of elective system all municipaliti

IV. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the municipalities in Bengal in which the elective system is in force, and

(*ii*) the municipalities the members of which are wholly nominated by the Government?

(*b*) With reference to the recent Resolution of the Government of India on Local Self-Government, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of extending the elective system to municipalities which do not now possess it, and if so, will they be pleased to mention the names of such municipalities?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. DONALD was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "A statement is laid on the table. It will appear that out of 111 Municipalities in Bengal there are only 15, the members of which are wholly nominated by Government.

(*b*) The recommendations of the Royal Commission upon Decentralization regarding the extension of the elective principle have always been kept in view. The elective system will be extended to those Municipalities which do not at present enjoy the privilege as soon as this can be done without detriment to public interest. The matter is occupying the attention of Government."

I.

Statement referred to in the answer by the Hon'ble Mr. Donald to question No. IV (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble Babu S. N. Banerji at the Council meeting of the 26th July, 1915, showing the Municipalities in Bengal in which the elective system is in force.

Name of District	Name of Municipality
BURDWAN DIVISION.	
Burdwan	Burdwan. Kalna. Katwa. Dainhat. Raniganj.
Birbhum	Suri.
Bankura	Bankura. Vishnupur. Sonamukhi.
Midnapore	Midnapore. Tamluk. Ghatal. Chandrakona. Ramjibanpur. Khirpai. Kharar.
Hooghly	Hooghly-Chinsura. Serampore. Uttarpara. Baidyabati. Bhadreswar. Kotrung. Bansberia. Arambagh.
Howrah	Howrah. Bally.
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.	
24-Parganas	Cossipore-Chitpur. Maniktala. Baranagar. Kamarhati. South Suburban. Tollyganj. Rajpur. Baruipur. Jainagar. South Dum-Dum. North Dum-Dum. South Barrackpore. Panihati. North Barrackpore

Name of District.	Name of Municipality.
PRESIDENCY DIVISION—*concld.*	
24-Parganas	Barasat. Naihati. Halisahar. Gobardanga. Basirhat. Baduria. Taki.
Nadia	Krishnagar. Santipur. Ranaghat. Nadia. Kushtia. Kumarkhali. Meherpur. Birnagar. Chakdah.
Murshidabad	Berhampore. Murshidabad. Azimganj. Jangipur. Kandi.
Jessore	Jessore. Kotchandpur. Maheshpur.
Khulna	Khulna. Satkhira. Debhatta.
DACCA DIVISION.	
Dacca	Dacca. Narayanganj.
Mymensingh	Mymensingh. Muktagacha. Jamalpur. Sherpur. Kishorganj. Bazitpur Tangail.
Faridpur	Faridpur. Madaripur.
Bakarganj	Barisal.
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	
Chittagong	Chittagong.
Tippera	Comilla. Brahmanbaria. Chandpur.
Noakhali	Noakhali.
RAJSHAHI DIVISION.	
Rajshahi	Rampur-Boalia. Nator.
Dinajpur	Dinajpur.
Jalpaiguri	Jalpaiguri.
Rangpur	Rangpur.
Bogra	Bogra. Sherpur.
Pabna	Pabna. Serajganj.
Malda	English Bazar. Old Malda.
Darjeeling	Kurseong.

II.

Statement showing the Municipalities, the members of which are whol nominated by the Government.

Name of District.	Name of Municipality.
BURDWAN DIVISION.	
Burdwan	Asansol.
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.	
24-Parganas	Garden Reach. Titagar. Garulia. Bhatpara. Budge-Budge.
Murshidabad	Dhulian.
DACCA DIVISION.	
Mymensingh	Netrakona.
Bakarganj	Nalchiti. Jhalakati. Pirojpur. Patuakhali.
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	
Chittagong	Cox's Bazar.
RAJSHAHI DIVISION.	
Malda	Nawabganj.
Darjeeling	Darjeeling.

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Reorganization of the Excise Department.

V. Will the Government be pleased to state the details of the reorganiz tion of the Excise Department and the methods of recruitment for the variou offices?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. DONALD was laid on the table :-

"The main features of the Reorganization Scheme are—

(1) The formation of a close Excise and Salt service for the Presidenc and the dissociation, as far as possible, from excise work c officers entrusted with revenue and judicial functions.

(2) The creation of two appointments of Deputy Commissioner, c Rs. 850—50—1,000 per mensem, to replace the existing Inspect of Excise and the Assistant Commissioner of Salt in charge c the districts of the 24-Parganas and Khulna. The duties c these officers will consist mainly in inspection and advisory worl the supervision of the preventive staff and the co-ordination c the preventive operations.

(3) The creation of a staff of 26 Excise Superintendents, on pay rangin from Rs. 250 to Rs. 700 per mensem, with an additional probe tionary Superintendent on Rs. 150 per mensem. The schem provides for the appointment in each district of a special Excis

officer who will hold entire charge of district Excise administration in subordination to the Collector, with regard to whom he will occupy a position similar to that of the Superintendent of Police in police matters. Superintendents will be appointed to all districts, except Howrah, Bogra and Noakhali, in which it is proposed for the present to put an Inspector in charge. The Chief Preventive Officer in Calcutta and the Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Excise, hitherto recruited from other services, are included in the number of Superintendents.

(*4*) The improvement of the pay and grading and the strengthening of the numbers of existing distillery, warehouse and preventive staff, so as to ensure greater efficiency in preventive work and in supervision over distilleries and warehouses. Fifty-five Inspectors will be appointed on pay ranging from Rs. 100 to Rs. 250 to replace the old Deputy Inspector class. The number of Sub-Inspectors has been raised from 169 to 237 and their pay from Rs. 30 rising to Rs. 80, to Rs. 50 rising to Rs. 100.

(*5*) A similar revision of the staff of petty officers, peons and clerks and the amalgamation of the district clerical Excise establishments with the Collectors' establishments.

Superintendents, Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Excise and Salt will be recruited in accordance with the rules made on the subject and published under the Financial Department Notification No. 501 S.R., dated the 15th March, 1915, on pages 447—450 of Part I of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 17th *idem*. The appointments of Deputy Commissioner will be prize appointments, to be filled up by selection from Superintendents."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Alleged prevalence of distress in the districts of Noakhali Tippera.

VI. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to make a statement with regard to the prevalence of distress in the districts of Noakhali and Tippera, and the measures which the Government have adopted, or are adopting, in this connection ?

(*b*) Has any other district been similarly affected ?

(*c*) Is it a fact that floods have caused serious damage to the standing crops of rice and jute in Eastern Bengal ?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state the extent of the damage so caused ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY was laid on the table :—

"The information asked for regarding the prevalence of distress and damage to crops by flood in Eastern Bengal is contained in the statement which will be made by the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Internment of Bengalis.

VI A. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the number of Bengalis interned since the beginning of the war,

(*ii*) their names and position in life,

(*iii*) the places where they are interned, and

(*iv*) whether Government are considering the desirability of paying the cost of their maintenance during the period of internment and such charges as may be incurred for conveying them to the places where they are to be interned ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table:—

"It is understood that the Hon'ble Member refers to the orders which have been issued under rule 3 of the Defence of India Rules, 1915, restraining the movements of certain persons. Such orders have been served on fourteen persons, of whom twelve are now residing at the places assigned in the orders. The order against one person has been held in abeyance pending inquiries which are being made regarding his state of health, while one person has been removed to jail by order of the High Court since the order was served on him. Government do not consider it consistent with public interests to publish in the proceedings of this Council the names and position in life of the persons on whom orders have been served or to give public information as to the places where they have been ordered to reside, but Government will have no objection to my giving the Hon'ble Member or any other Hon'ble Member confidential information on these points. Nine persons have been given an allowance of Rs. 30 a month each, one person has been given an allowance of Rs. 22 a month, and another an allowance of Rs. 20. An allowance of Rs. 30 a month was sanctioned for the man who has since been removed to jail. No allowance is being paid to the person in respect of whom the order has been held in abeyance, while one of the men in respect of whom the order has been passed and is in force has been allowed to continue to work at his trade and is given no allowance. The travelling expenses of eight persons to the places at which they were ordered to reside were paid by Government, and the person in whose case the order was held in abeyance was given Rs. 20 to cover the cost of his return journey from Chittagong to Calcutta. Two persons are residing at the places at which the order was served on them. House accommodation is provided by the Government in all cases except where the persons are allowed to live in their own houses or in those of their relatives."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR:—

Dredging of the river Bhagirathi.

VII. With reference to the reply given by the Hon'ble Mr. Cowley to my question at the Council meeting of the 6th April, 1915, with regard to the dredging of the river Bhagirathi, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received the report from Major Hirst and, if so, what orders have been passed thereon?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. COWLEY was laid on the table:—

"Owing to Major Hirst's indisposition the report which was expected at the end of May has not yet been received in complete form, but he reports that it will be submitted shortly. Government will then appoint a small Committee to consider Major Hirst's report and to recommend what action should be taken."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR:—

Posting of a Sub-Judge at Malda.

VIII. With reference to the reply given by the Hon'ble Mr. Cumming to my question at the Council meeting of the 2nd July, 1914, with regard to the posting of a Sub-Judge at Malda, will the Government be pleased to state whether a final decision has been arrived at in the matter?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table:—

"The matter has been further considered by Government in consultation with the High Court, who recently advised that the statistics of judicial work in the Rajshahi-Malda district did not justify any permanent addition to the staff employed in that district. The High Court recognised, however, that there were strong administrative grounds for meeting the wishes of the inhabitants of Malda, and suggested that a Subordinate Judge might be posted to Malda temporarily as an experiment, if an officer could be provided without prejudice to the requirements in the matter of additional Subordinate Judges elsewhere. Owing to lack of funds and the more urgent requirements

of other districts, it will not be possible to give effect to the High Court's suggestion this year, but the matter will be further considered when staff and funds become available."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ :—

IX. (*a*) Is it a fact that there is no provision for hostel accommodation for Muhammadan M.A. and M.Sc. students in Calcutta ?

Hostel accommodation for Muhammadan M.A. and M.Sc. students in Calcutta

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state how the Muhammadan M.A. and M.Sc. students have hitherto been accommodated ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. DONALD was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) M.A. and M.Sc. students in Calcutta are either in the University classes or students of the Presidency or Scottish Churches College. There is not at present any provision for accommodating Indian M.A. and M.Sc. students in Government Hostels, but it is understood that the Scottish Churches College does not exclude such students from its hostels.

"(*b*) Muhammadan M.A. and M.Sc. students make their own arrangements for accommodation. They are occasionally admitted into the University Law College Mess."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ :—

X. Will the Government be pleased to state whether any steps are being taken to increase the pay of process-serving peons attached to the Civil Courts ?

Increase of pay of process-serving peons attached to Civil Courts

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table :—

"A scheme for improving the pay of process-serving peons attached to Civil Courts has been formulated and is now under consideration."

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ :—

XI. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the date on which the Court of Wards took over charge of the estate of Jafarali Khan Panee of Karatiya ?

(*b*) Is it a fact that there is a Privy Council decree for costs in favour of the estate of Jafarali Khan and others, passed some years ago ?

(*c*) Is it also a fact that there is a decree of the Original Side of the High Court for an amount exceeding a lakh of rupees against one Delendra Lal Mullick and others, of Calcutta, in favour of Jafarali Khan and others, passed several years ago ?

(*d*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state why these decrees have not been executed and the amount on realization utilized in paying off the debts of the said Jafarali Khan ?

(*e*) Is it a fact that properties belonging to the estate are at present being sold to pay off debts ?

(*f*) Is it true that Jafarali Khan brought to the notice of the Court of Wards the fact that he has been dispossessed of a certain share of his ancestral property ?

(*g*) Are the Government taking any steps, through the Court of Wards, with the object of instituting suits to enforce these claims ?

(*h*) Is it a fact that the total debts of Jafarali Khan do not exceed Rs. 5,000 and that the annual income of Jafarali Khan exceeds Rs. 25,000 ?

(*i*) Will the Government kindly state why these debts have not yet been liquidated ?

(*j*) Is it a fact that several claims in favour of the estate of Jafarali Khan have become barred by limitation?

(*k*) If so, will the Government kindly state the circumstances which made such a state of affairs possible?

(*l*) Is it a fact that Jafarali Khan has made repeated endeavours to get his estate released from the Court of Wards?

(*m*) Is it also a fact that he has offered to pay off the debt on his estate from his own pocket?

(*n*) Will the Government kindly state the circumstances under which the Court of Wards still retains control of the estate?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY was laid on the table:—

"The statutory power of releasing estates from the Court of Wards is vested in the Board of Revenue by virtue of section 9(*c*) of Bengal Act IX of 1879. A petition for the release of the estate of Jafarali Khan has been presented to the Board of Revenue and they are now engaged in inquiring into that petition. The Governor in Council has no doubt that the Board of Revenue will give due consideration to all the facts, or alleged facts, embodied in the question of the Hon'ble Member. If Jafarali Khan is dissatisfied with the orders ultimately passed by the Board of Revenue, it is open to him to move the Local Government for a revision of these orders. At present the Governor in Council has no detailed information regarding most of the matters mentioned in this question."

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2A.

Statement by the Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL, regarding distress in the Noakhali and Tippera districts.

"MY LORD,

As several questions have been asked regarding distress in the districts of Tippera and Noakhali, it will be convenient if I make a general statement on this subject. I have recently toured in the five subdivisions of these districts. I have made a point of visiting the tracts where the situation was said to be worst. Everywhere I have gone into the villages and conversed with the people in their homes.

Tippera has an area of 2,624 square miles and a population of 2,430,138 persons. Noakhali has an area of 1,641 square miles and a population of 1,302,090 persons. Taking the two districts together, the area under jute in 1914 was 365,862 acres and the outturn 5,962,950 maunds. Owing to the war the cultivators lost, at a moderate estimate, four rupees on every maund of jute. In other words, the cash which came to these two districts was less than what the cultivators expected by Rs. 2,38,50,800. This is the root cause of the distress, and it is common to all the jute-producting districts. Three special causes have, however, been in operation in Tippera and Noakhali which have rendered their condition worse than those of the surrounding districts. In the first place, the winter rice crop of 1914-15 suffered much—particularly in Chandpur subdivision and in Noakhali Sadar—from the disease known as *utra*. In the second place, the districts of Tippera and Noakhali contain an unusually large number of landless labourers: in ordinary years these men earn good wages by working in the jute and rice fields of raiyats, sometimes in their own districts and sometimes elsewhere. This year owing to the general shortage of cash and to the restriction in the area under jute the demand for labour has been greatly reduced and many of the landless labourers of Noakhali and Tippera have been thrown out of work. In the third place, there have been serious floods in portions of these two districts.

In considering the intensity of distress in any tract the first question which naturally arises is the price of foodstuffs. It is satisfactory to note

that in this respect the suituation has not been serious. The following figures show the price per maund of common rice (local *aman*) during April, May and June of the last three years :—

		April.	May.	June.	Average.
		Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.
Tippera (Comilla)	1913 ...	5 0	4 11	4 13	4 13
	1914 ...	5 7	5 10	6 0	5 11
	1915 ...	5 5	5 11	6 0	5 10
Noakhali ...	1913 ...	4 6	4 12	4 2	4 7
	1914 ...	5 5	5 7	5 8	5 6
	1915 ...	5 8	5 13	5 10	5 10

It should also be noted that there have been plentiful imports of Burma rice which has been selling in the bazars throughout the districts at about Rs. 4-8, or even less, per maund. New *aus* rice is now in the market at about Rs. 5-2 per maund. It has been suggested in one question that the poorer classes of *bhadralok*, presumably those with small fixed incomes, have suffered specially and therefore require special measures of relief. From the figures just given it seems that this apprehension is not serious. Apart from sugar and salt (which owing to the war have risen in price throughout the province) there has been no material rise in the cost of living in Noakhali and Tippera: on the contrary, the fall in wages consequent on the reduced demand for labour has tended to reduce the cost of living in the case of those with small fixed incomes. The condition of the poorer *bhadralok* has not been overlooked either by Government or by non-official workers, but undoubtedly the chief sufferers have been the cultivators, the labouring classes and (in consequence) the aged and crippled beggars.

The second point to which attention is naturally drawn is the death-rate. Many sensational accounts of death from starvation have appeared in the press. We can only say that we have investigated every case carefully and in no case are we satisfied that death has been due to this cause. It is indeed most unlikely, in view of the systematic efforts of official and non-official workers in all parts of the districts, that any one should die of hunger. The actual deaths from all causes in the two districts have been—

First half year.

	1913	1914	1915
Tippera	29,578	26,679	27,690
Noakhali	17,719	16,942	16,597

Another point which deserves notice is the state of credit, the borrowing power, of the two districts. It is usual for jute cultivators to live on borrowed money while the crop is growing. This year, owing to the shortage of cash already mentioned, themoney-lenders have undoubtedly restricted their business to a great extent. Statements have been made to the effect that money-lenders have entirely closed their business, but this is hardly borne out by facts. An examination of the figures in the Registration Offices of Tippera shows that, apart from mortgages on land, 989 money bonds were registered during the first half of 1915, as against 1,401 money bonds in the same period of 1914. I noticed somewhat similar figures in the Registration Offices of Noakhali. The rate of interest in recent bonds has averaged about Rs. 4-7 per cent. per month.

Finally, as regards the physical state of the country and the standing crops, it may be said at once that throughout the greater part of the two districts the state of the standing crops—*aus*, jute and *aman*—leaves nothing to be desired. *Aus* and jute are now being harvested. *Aus*, as already

noticed, is selling at Rs. 5-2. At a mufassal market, which I personally visited in the middle of July I found the price of new jute to vary from Rs. 6-12 to Rs. 8 per maund according to the quality. While this satisfactory state of affairs exists throughout the greater part of the area there are certain tracts where things are very different. The year has been marked by early and violent floods. The river Gumti burst its right embankment at several places. This was on 9th June, and it was not until more than a month that the landlords who own the embankment completed the repairs. Meanwhile the water poured upon the fields of their raiyats. There were similar floods on the banks of the Buri river in Tippera and the Muhari river in the Feni subdivision of Noakhali. Lowlands in the area where Noakhali subdivision adjoins Chandpur subdivision, and also lowlands in the northern part of Brahmanbaria subdivision suffered seriously from the floods of June. The last-named area also suffered from a recrudescence in July of floods in Sylhet and Cachar. I have visited a great many of the flooded villages in Tippera and Noakhali, and I can vouch for the fact that in considerable areas the broad-cast *aman* crop—which is the crop on which these villages mainly rely—has been destroyed beyond redemption. The estimated area of serious flooding is 250 square miles in Tippera and 30 square miles in Noakhali.

I now turn to the remedial measures which have been and which are being taken. As the conditions are totally different from those contemplated by the Famine Code, and as, in the greater part of the districts, the distress is purely temporary and will disappear when the standing autumn crops are reaped, we decided that we would not be justified in making any formal declaration of 'famine' and in adopting the elaborate procedure of the Famine Code. The measures which we adopted were threefold and the code which we advised the workers, official and non-official, to follow was the code of common sense. In the first place, District Boards have undertaken special works without the intervention of contractors. These are not relief works or famine works in the technical sense. The works have generally consisted in removing jungle from tanks and roads and in one case (a work which His Excellency personally inspected) about 500 people have been employed in metalling an important road. In Noakhali, about 1,000 tanks have been cleaned of weeds, the cost being debited to the money which the District Board had wisely set aside for the 'Improvement of Water-supply.' The workers on these special works are usually paid four annas per day, boys getting half rates. Up to date Tippera has employed 34,240 workers at an expenditure of Rs. 12,500 and Noakhali 64,737 workers at an expenditure of Rs. 12,138. The second remedial measure has been the distribution of gratuitous relief, generally in the form of doles of rice, to those who are short of food, but physically unable to work on the special works of the District Board. The House will remember that, when the current budget was under discussion, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur asked me to explain why we had made an entry of Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief, and the House will remember that I replied as follows :—

'An exactly similar sum was put down in the year which has just closed. We thought it wise to make the provision in view of the distress which might still be prevalent in the Burdwan Division. I am glad to say that we had only to spend Rs. 2,000 of that amount. But although last year we spent only Rs. 2,000, we considered it wise in the present year to repeat the full allotment of Rs. 50,000. We do not know when or where it will be required. We trust it will not be required at all, but all will agree that it is a prudent and considerate provision.'

When the present trouble arose I was truly thankful that we had this grant at our disposal, and were able not only to meet to the full the demands of the local officers, but even to give them rather more than they asked for. Up to date, we have actually allotted Rs. 30,000 for gratuitous relief in Tippera and Noakhali. There have also been considerable donations from private sources. In many cases the contributions from Government and the contributions from private sources have been mingled in a common fund.

administered by private workers. The latest figures for gratuitous relief show—

Tippera Rs. 6,000 distributed to 11,000 persons.

Noakhali Rs. 18,492 distributed to 56,129 persons.

In this, of course, is not included all the quiet charity which is not brought to the notice of any recognised committee, official or non-official—the charity where the giver's left hand knows not what his right hand is doing. I take this opportunity of thanking the honorary workers for all they have done. It is with special satisfaction that I thank the presidents of panchayats for their loyal co-operation with the Circle officers. The zeal and local knowledge of the presidents have been an asset of the first value. The last and largest of the remedial measures which we have adopted has been the distribution of agricultural loans. One of the questions which has been asked is based on a statement (which I did not make) to the effect that on 7th July our available balance for agricultural loans was only Rs. 10,000. I must have been misunderstood, for, as a matter of fact, our available balance on that day was Rs. 30,000. What, however, was the exact balance on that day is no longer of much practical importance. The essential facts are these—that in the budget as passed the allotment for agricultural loans for the whole province was only Rs. 2,50,000 (no one, as far as I remember, criticised this as being too small); that the divisions other than Chittagong have been allotted Rs. 2,20,000, every rupee of which they will require; and that the sum originally available for Chittagong Division was therefore only Rs. 30,000. This would have been serious, but the House will be glad to learn that by means of gradual reappropriations from other allotments we have been able to place a total sum of three lakhs of rupees at the disposal of the Commissioner of Chittagong for the purpose of agricultural loans, and that we have still some money in hand in case further loans are required either in Chittagong Division or elsewhere. So far, we have not found it necessary to apply to the Government of India for an additional allotment of loans. According to the latest reports the sum actually distributed as loans in Tippera and Noakhali has been Rs. 1,11,395. The loans are being given out on joint bonds. The money is being distributed in the villages according to the simplest possible procedure, and those who have land are being encouraged to take into their joint bonds a few who have no land.

As regards the length of time during which these remedial measures will be continued, it is hoped that, so far as the unflooded area is concerned, the special works of the District Boards, and the distribution of gratuitous rice, will no longer be necessary and may safely be discontinued after the first week of August. In neither case, in the opinion of this Government, should the cessation be made too suddenly. The matter will be left to the discretion of the local authorities and the case of the flooded tracts is being brought specially to their notice. The distribution of the remaining money for agricultural loans will be spread over different periods in different localities, according to circumstances. In the areas which have not been flooded few further loans, if any, will now be required. Loans will continue to be distributed to persons in the flooded area, and also to persons whose houses have been diluviated near the town of Noakhali. In the former case the loans will be given at the season when they will be of most real use to the cultivators to enable them to prepare their next crop and to carry on until that crop is reaped. In the case of persons whose houses have been diluviated the loans will naturally be given at the time they desire to reconstruct their houses. It is not proposed to issue hard-and-fast rules to the Collectors regarding the time of distributing the remaining loans, but it is probable that the bulk of the money will be distributed between now and December, 1915. Discretion is also being left to the Collectors as to the dates on which the instalments of the loans will be repaid. It is thought that the raiyats will generally prefer to repay the loan either in one instalment at the harvest of the next crop, or in two instalments spread over the next two harvests. Lastly, the Collectors are being asked to see that when the time comes the money is collected

as far as possible in the villages with a minimum use of the certificate procedure.

I have only to add that when we issued a *communiqué* on 22nd June we were able to announce a grant of one lakh for loans and Rs. 10,000 for gratuitous relief. From the statement which I have made to-day the House will see that as the situation has developed and as funds have become available we have been able to increase each of these grants to three times their original amount."

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE BENGAL DECENTRALIZATION BILL, 1915.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS NOS. 3 AND 4.

3. The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved for leave to introduce a Bill to facilitate the administration of certain enactments in force in Bengal.

He said :—

"My Lord, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to decentralize and otherwise to facilitate the administration of certain enactments in force in Bengal.

The Bill has already been published and circulated, and I have little to add to what has been set forth in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. The Bill is the outcome of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Decentralization. A general delegation Bill was first proposed and introduced into the Supreme Council. This Bill gave no details : it simply authorized Government to delegate powers by executive order from a superior to an inferior authority. The Bill was criticised on the ground that it was a 'blank cheque', a 'pig in a poke', and so on. The Bill was ultimately withdrawn and detailed legislation was undertaken. The Supreme Council has already passed a detailed Act dealing with Imperial laws, and we have now to consider similar legislation dealing with our provincial laws. 'Decentralization' is a popular cry with all sections of the community. If any one proposes 'decentralization', there is at once a chorus of approval from officials and non-officials, Indians and Europeans. 'Yes, let us have decentralization. Down with Red Tape! Down with the Circumlocution Office!' But as soon as we descend to details, differences of opinion are apt to arise. In fact, every one believes in 'decentralization', but every one puts a different meaning to the word. For instance, there are many officials, European and Indian, who would reply, if asked to define decentralization, 'Decentralization is an ideal system under which I am given full power to interfere with all the actions of my subordinates, while at the same time my superiors are restrained in every possible way from interfering with my actions.' Others, especially members of the legal profession, would define decentralization 'as a system under which the original order is passed by the lowest possible authority, coupled with an ample series of appeals up to the highest possible authority.' We recognize that we cannot please every one, so we have tried in the Bill before the House to adopt a reasonable and moderate course. We have based our proposals upon practical experience. We have examined our provincial Acts in great detail. Where we have found that in actual practice the order has always been passed by a lower authority and that the confirmation of the superior authority has become a mere formality, we propose to amend the law so as to place the legal responsibility in the proper place—that is to say, in the authority which exercises the power *de facto*. I take a few cases at random from the schedules of our Bill. Section 64 of the Land Registration Act lays down a table of fees to be paid on the registration of transfers. It also empowers the Board of Revenue to remit these fees in special cases. It has been found by actual practice that when the Commissioner recommends the

remission of a fee the Board invariably ratifies his proposal. We therefore ask that the power of remitting these fees should be definitely vested in the Commissioner. Again, in section 101 of the Cess Act it is laid down that the sanction of the Commissioner is necessary before the Collector can depute one of his Deputy Collectors to do the ordinary work of 'Cess Deputy Collector.' In actual practice the Commissioner always allows the Collector to select such Deputy Collector as he sees fit. We propose to amend the law so that these routine references to the Commissioner are no longer necessary. Similarly, in the Municipal Act we propose to transfer to the Commissioner certain powers of control which are nominally exercised by the Local Government, but are exercised in actual practice by the Commissioner, the Local Government formally confirming his suggestions. In this Act, however, we propose in most cases to make the orders of the Commissioner subject to the administrative control of the Local Government. At this stage I need not weary the House by further details. Each proposal will be examined on its merits in Select Committee and again in full Council. I may add that since the Bill was published a few more proposals, relating mainly to the Cess Act, have been put forward. These also will be examined in Select Committee. Finally, as explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, we have refrained from dealing with any Act which has not been in force for at least five years. This is a necessary consequence of our decision to act throughout upon the basis of practical experience."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, there is just one matter in regard to which I should like to have a word of explanation from the Hon'ble Member. Decentralization is a captivating word. The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell, when moving for leave to introduce the Bill, expressed a hope that it would be acceptable to this side of the House as it was acceptable to officials as well as non-officials, to Europeans as well as Indians. We are all for decentralization. But, my Lord, it is necessary that there should be reserved some measure of control to higher authorities in respect of certain matters. One of the matters which I think the Hon'ble Member has just mentioned is this: That in respect of nominations made by the Commissioner of the Division—which nominations are now confirmed by the Government—the final authority will be the Commissioners of Divisions. My Lord, I have been connected with a municipality for the last 30 years, and I have found that the higher we mount the purer becomes the atmosphere, and that the nominations made by the Magistrates and confirmed by the Commissioners of Divisions have not been nominations which ought to have been accepted. The power as reserved by Government has exercised a beneficent influence upon the discretion of the Commissioner. If the object of the Bill is to take away this power from the Government, then I for one would deem it my duty to oppose this Bill in the interest of Local Self-Government, that is, if the power be withdrawn from the Government and vested in subordinate authorities.

I am afraid subordinate authorities are subject to local influences and they may not exercise that power in a manner acceptable to the higher authorities. That is the view which I hold, and if I am wrong, I hope the Hon'ble Member will correct me. But if I am right, I shall deem it my duty to oppose this Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"That is one of the matters which I have already explained. The Commissioner will exercise his powers subject to the administrative control of the Local Government."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"I just want to know this. All these nominations are now made by the Local Government on the recommendations made by the Commissioners. Are we to understand that, after this Bill is passed, the orders of the Commissioners will be final and that the matters will not be laid before the Local Government?"

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"As I have said, the orders of the Commissioners will be subject to the control of the Local Government."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"The present practice is that these nominations are not gazetted until they are confirmed by the Local Government."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"I think that, under the Bill as it now stands, the Commissioner will gazette his nominations, and if any one is dissatisfied with them he can move the Local Government."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, we have a number of Municipal Commissioners on this Council. My friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray is the chairman of a suburban municipality, and my friend the Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur is also the chairman of a mufassal municipality. We have got quite a good volume of experienced opinion with regard to this matter. I hope that my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell will defer to that opinion so far as this particular amendment is concerned."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord, I rise to a point of order. This seems to be a question for the Select Committee."

[The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji was called to order.]

The motion was then put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved that the said Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Monahan, the Hon'ble Mr. De, the Hon'ble Mr. Birley, the Hon'ble Sir S. P. Sinha, the Hon'ble Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq, the Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur and the mover, with instructions to circulate their report in time for its consideration at the meeting of the Council to be held in September next.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I think I am now in order. I have already submitted for your Excellency's consideration the objection which we on this side of the House feel with regard to this Bill.

It is really a very disagreeable thing to speak anything about the *personnel* of the Select Committee, but I am sorry to say that there is not a single gentleman on the Committee who has good municipal experience——"

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL, interrupting, said :—

"I think the Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur is a Municipal Commissioner."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"He is a nominated Commissioner of a municipality."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"But he was elected to the Council by the Municipalities of the Rajshahi Division."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, what we feel is this : Your Excellency has proposed a Select Committee for the purpose of considering, among other things, municipal

matters, but I am sorry to say that it does not consist of any gentlemen possessing considerable municipal experience. I think, my Lord, that there ought to be at least some additions to that Committee. With your Excellency's permission, I would move that either my friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray or the Hon'ble Maharaja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur be added to the Select Committee."

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord, I have no objection to either of these gentlemen being appointed to the Select Committee, but we must then have another official member added to the Committee."

[It was eventually decided to add the names of the Hon'ble Mr. Lang and the Hon'ble Babu S. N. Banerji to the Select Committee.]

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR said :—

"My Lord, I find that this Bill contains certain amendments of the Calcutta Port Act. As my friend the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji has said, 'decentralization' is a very captivating word. Although we are all advocates of self-government, and we are all anxious to have as much power entrusted to local bodies as possible, it is my duty to point out that this amendment of section 51 of the Calcutta Port Act is one which should not be introduced into this Bill.

My Lord, at present under the powers vested in the Calcutta Port Commissioners, they can sanction estimates not exceeding Rs. 50,000 and estimates above that amount are subject to the sanction of the Local Government. What is now proposed—and this is a very important principle—is that they should be empowered to sanction estimates up to two lakhs of rupees without the sanction of the Local Government. I have the honour to belong to some local bodies in Calcutta and none would rejoice as much as I would to see more power given to local bodies. But I have also great faith in the Government established as it now is—a Governor in Council. I submit, my Lord, that all estimates and contracts above Rs. 50,000 or a certain sum of money laid down in this Act should be subject to the scrutiny and sanction of the Local Government. There is often a divergence of opinion between the executive and a certain section of the members of local bodies, and it is not infrequently the case that the executive carries with the help of the majority certain estimates which might otherwise have been scrutinized by the Government, and the objections taken by the minority might be based on good grounds. The amendment which is now sought to be introduced will apply also to other Acts, namely, the Calcutta Municipal Act and the Calcutta Improvement Act, and the power now exercised by these local bodies will be increased to the extent of two lakhs of rupees without reference to the Local Government. Although, as I have said, I belong to two of these local bodies, I would strongly oppose any increase of financial power given to them or to any other body without the supervision, scrutiny and control of the Local Government. There is a great safeguard in the Local Government criticising carefully every proposal that comes up to them; for instance, if the Corporation of Calcutta or the Calcutta Improvement Trust or the Calcutta Port Trust sanction an estimate which involves an expenditure of two lakhs of rupees, but a minority of the members consider that such a large sum need not be spent, there would be absolutely no remedy, because the chairman and his majority will always carry the day. Having regard to this danger, it is necessary that the law as it now stands should continue. Speaking on behalf of the community I represent in this Council, I may say that we shall be glad if this power be retained in the hands of Government."

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord, at this stage we are only concerned with general principles. Surely the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur does not oppose the whole

principle of the Bill because we have proposed to raise the power of the Calcutta Port Trust to sanction estimates from half a lakh to two lakhs of rupees. I take it that he thinks that two lakhs is rather too high. If that is so, it is really a matter for the Select Committee. If he is in favour of the general principle of decentralization, we shall be quite willing to consider this question fully in the Select Committee."

The motion was then put in the following form and agreed to :—

That the said Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell, the Hon'ble Mr. Monahan, the Hon'ble Mr. Lang, the Hon'ble Mr. De, the Hon'ble Mr. Birley, the Hon'ble Sir S. P. Sinha, the Hon'ble Sir Bijay Chand Mahtab, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji and the Hon'ble Rai Hari Mohan Chandra Bahadur with instructions to circulate their report in time for its consideration at the meeting of the Council in September next.

THE BENGAL LEGISLATIVE RULES, 1912.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 5.

5. The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon moved that for rule 29 of the Bengal Legislative Rules, 1912, the following be substituted, namely :—

"29. (*1*) Any Member desiring to move for leave to introduce a Bill in accordance with the provisions of section 37 or section 38 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, shall give the Secretary at least two months' previous notice of his intention and shall, together with the notice, send a copy of the Bill and a full Statement of Objects and Reasons.

Introduction of Bills

24 & 25 Vict. 67.

(*2*) If, after the expiration of the said period, such motion be carried in Council, the Secretary shall cause the Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, to be printed (if not already in print), and shall send a copy to each Member, and the Bill shall thereupon be deemed to have been introduced in Council :

Provided that the President shall not permit the introduction of any Bill which requires the previous sanction of—

(*a*) the Governor, under section 38 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, or

24 & 25 Vict. 67.

(*b*) the Governor General, under—

(*i*) section 43 of the said Act, or

(*ii*) section 5 of the Indian Councils Act, 1892.

55 & 56 Vict., 14.

as the case may be, unless and until such sanction has been duly accorded thereto.

He said :—

"My Lord, I need not detain the Council for any length of time, as this proposal has already been discussed with several non-official members of Council and has received their approval, and has also been circulated to all members without our receiving any notice of amendment to it.

The object of the amendment is to prolong the period of notice to be given by the author of a private Bill before he asks for permission to introduce it into this Council. It is, I may venture to say, a simple amendment

which will obviously facilitate the running of the legislative machine and will secure the proper consideration of Bills presented to Council at the earliest stage, thus saving possible waste of time and friction later on.

Bills passed by this Council must receive the assent of the Governor General before they can become law, and may be eventually disallowed by His Majesty the King-Emperor at a later stage. It is accordingly desirable that an opportunity should be given to the Governor General and the Secretary of State to intimate any radical objections which may in their opinion exist to the provisions of any Bill which it is proposed to introduce into this Council before its introduction is debated.

A reference to the proviso to the new rule will also shew that the law prohibits the introduction of certain Bills into the Provincial Council without the previous sanction of the Governor of Bengal or the Governor General of India. Such Bills are (1) measures which affect the public revenues of the Presidency or by which any charge is to be imposed on such revenues, (2) Bills which fall into any of the eight categories mentioned in section 43 of the Indian Councils Act of 1861, and (3) Bills which propose the repeal or amendment of any laws or regulations passed by legislatures other than this Council. While it will be at once obvious in most cases whether a Bill does or does not come within these sections of the law, there may be some cases in which it is difficult to determine the point, and it is desirable in the interests of this Council, in order to avoid our entering upon barren proceedings, that these Bills should be thoroughly examined with reference to these provisions of the law before they are introduced into this Council.

For these reasons, I believe that the amendment of our Rules which I have the honour to propose will meet with the approval of Hon'ble Members."

The motion was put and agreed to.

RESOLUTIONS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 6 & 7.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji moved the following resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the necessary measures be taken, as soon as it may be convenient, to give effect to the recommendations made by Mr. Swan in his Report on the Industrial Development of Bengal.

He said :—

"My Lord, I hope and trust that your Excellency's Government will see their way to accept this Resolution. I am encouraged in this hope by the attitude of your Excellency's Government in regard to the question of the development of our industries, an attitude which is in entire conformity with the policy of the Government of India. My Lord, the appointment of Mr. Swan as a special officer to enquire into and report upon our industries would be a meaningless proceeding unless it implied that it was the firm resolve of your Excellency's Government to pursue a definite and decisive policy for the promotion of our industries. As this is the first opportunity we have of discussing Mr. Swan's Report, I will say this—that his appointment gave great public satisfaction. His report, remarkable for its brevity and directness of purpose, has been read with interest, and I may add, with profit by an admiring public, and we now appeal to your Excellency's Government to give effect to its leading recommendations with as little delay as practicable. I am entitled, my Lord, to make this appeal, because Mr. Swan's report follows closely the lines of the policy of your Excellency's Government in this matter.

The policy of your Excellency's Government was laid down with clearness and emphasis by the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell on the occasion of

the Budget debate in April last. He said in substance, I need not quote the exact words, that whatever their personal convictions might be, whether they were free traders or heretics (I am inclined to think that the Hon'ble Member belongs to the class of heretics), as a Government they were bound to follow the policy laid down by the Government of India and the despatches of the Secretary of State. To them they looked for inspiration and guidance, like the cowboy who every evening turned to the prayer which he had framed and exclaimed 'Them's my sentiments.' The Hon'ble Member added that within the limitations laid down by the Government of India, they were prepared to do all that was humanly possible for the encouragement of our industries. No assurance could be more sympathetic, or more hopeful or more encouraging. Now what are the limitations imposed by the Government of India? We turn to them for guidance. The policy of the Government of India was laid down by the Hon'ble Sir William Clark, the Member for Commerce and Industries, in the course of a debate in the Imperial Legislative Council on this question which took place on the 24th February last. These are his words :—

> New industries cannot, under the stimulus of a few months' accidental shelter from competition, spring fully developed into existence. Such forced growths would be liable to wither like hot-house flowers at the first cold blast of adversity. But there is a practical field for effort where Indian manufacturers are already producing goods of a similar type to those now imported from countries with which we are at war. These industries have proved themselves hardy enough to weather the stress of competition, and for them the opportunity is obvious. They have the chance now of pushing their goods; of establishing connections which it is to be hoped they will be able to preserve after the war; and of increasing their production: thus becoming able to reduce their prices and so be much more formidable competitors, should they again have to compete with cheap German and Austrian goods. Expansion of this kind does not necessarily require large expenditure of capital. Such a programme may sound dull and unambitious as compared with the larger visions, which the Hon'ble Mover has adumbrated, of new industries springing into life throughout India, but all the same it is a very sure and useful line of development. It must be remembered that there is a very considerable number of articles now imported from Germany and Austria, which are also produced in this country, such as certain classes of woollens and cottons; certain types of glassware, including such special Indian articles as bangles and personal ornaments, and fancy goods generally; various kinds of earthenware and celluloid manufactures, pencils, matches, articles of aluminium and so on. To the producers of all these the present situation affords a very real opportunity.

Now here we have a clear enunciation of the policy of the Government of India which is to be the guiding principle of the Government of Bengal and of all other Local Governments. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Commerce Department deprecated the starting of new industries, which he thought would be crushed out of existence by a withering competition after the war; but he added that, in regard to certain old industries, the time was opportune for further development: and here we are entitled according to the declared policy of the Government itself to seek from it every encouragement, both moral support and active co-operation; and, my Lord, it is in connection with these industries that Mr. Swan makes his recommendations. The situation, therefore, is this—the policy of the Government of India is the policy of the Government of Bengal, and Mr. Swan's recommendations impart a definite and concrete shape to that policy by indicating the line of work which should be followed.

Mr. Swan starts with the proposition that 'the encouragement of Government might take a more active form than it has hitherto done.' That is the keynote of his report. My Lord, we who belong to the educated community are all protectionists; we believe that the aid and encouragement of Government is necessary to foster and stimulate our infant industries. We have high authority on our side. Mr. Austen Chamberlain, the present Secretary of State for India, is a protectionist; and in his preface to Sir Roper Lethbridge's book he has emphatically declared his protectionist principles as regards Indian industries. Starting with the proposition that there should be more active encouragement of our industries on the part

of Government. Mr. Swan recommends that the Government of Bengal should follow the example of the Government of Madras and begin with experiments in connection with some of our industries, such as, for instance, glass-making and the manufacture of matches. Mr. Swan is of opinion that facilities should be given in respect of some of the industries. For instance, he recommends that the Forest Department should make special arrangements for the supply of suitable wood on favourable terms to such industries as matches, pen and pencil making. I had a talk with the proprietor of one of the match factories, and he told me (and I think he repeated his statement to Mr. Swan) that he had enormous difficulties in securing suitable wood from the Kurseong forests. I hope these difficulties are now over and the necessary facilities have been given to match manufacturers for the supply of wood. In this connection it may not be out of place to refer to the question of railway freight. Mr. Swan says in his report :—

> Another difficulty is the cost of freight. It may not be possible to obtain a full waggon-load of suitable timber in one neighbourhood, but the railways charge freight not for the actual weight carried, but for the full capacity of the waggon. In one case the actual load was 231 maunds and the charge was for 551 maunds. I should like to recommend that, in such cases, State railways at least should only charge for the actual weight carried.

My Lord, when foreign Governments subsidize their industries and feed them with their bounties in order that they may compete in the Indian market, is it too much to ask the Government to reduce the railway freights for the transport of swadeshi articles or of the raw material needed for them, upon railways owned by the State? My Lord, cheap German and Austrian manufactures have indeed disappeared; but the Indian market is being flooded with Japanese goods; and behind the industrial enterprise of Japan are the vast resources of the Japanese Government. What is our Government doing? Why should we not have our own articles, manufactured by our own people, so that the wealth of the country may remain in the country? The Government must really make a departure from its past policy and actively participate in the encouragement of our industries.

Mr. Swan recommends that banking facilities should be afforded to our industries. He does not indeed say so in so many words; but no one reading the report can resist the impression that that is a recommendation which, if unfettered by official reserve, he would strongly urge. He mentions industry after industry which, he says, suffers through lack of capital, and he adds at the end of each paragraph the doleful remark: 'I was unable to assist.' This, he says, in connection with tanning, the manufacture of glass and matches and combs. With regard to the last, I understand that your Excellency was pleased to visit the Comb Factory at Jessore and was highly pleased with what you saw. Your Excellency was pleased to observe: 'I feel sure Government would wish to help any local industry if it could do so without departing from principles which it believes ought to underlie its policy.' Now with regard to this lack of capital, is it not possible for the Presidency banks, which receive large sums of money from the Government, to help our industries? All such aid must undoubtedly proceed upon business principles. But there is a feeling that the banks are timid in advancing money to Indian concerns. An expression of the sympathy of the Government and its desire that such advances should be made where reasonable guarantees are forthcoming would ease the situation and help our struggling industries.

My Lord, one of the most important recommendations made by Mr. Swan is the creation of Co-operative Credit Societies among cottage workers—such as cotton-weavers, silk-weavers and brass-workers. The officer in charge would assist in the purchase of raw materials and find markets for the finished material. Mr. Swan tells us that he has discussed this question with the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies, who has made a start in one or two centres and has submitted proposals to Government for extending his operations. I may add that your Excellency's Government has already accepted a Resolution in favour of the establishment of Co-operative Credit Societies

for cottage industries, at the meeting of the Council held on the 3rd March in connection with the Hon'ble Raja of Kakina's Resolution.

My Lord, we are all solicitous of the industrial development of our country. Here the people and the Government may whole-heartedly co-operate. India is an agricultural country; and so it has always been. But in the past it was also a manufacturing country. Our agricultural produce helped our manufactures; our manufactures strengthened the resources of our agriculturists. They acted and reacted upon one another and by their mutual interaction added to the volume of national prosperity. It was not our agricultural produce, not our rice or our 'dal' or our wheat that brought the East India Company to our shores; but it was the muslins of Dacca, our silks, our brocades, our calicoes that appealed to the commercial enterprise of European nations. If we had not been so utterly dependent upon the seasons, if the olden days of agriculture supplemented by manufactures had not wholly disappeared, if our community were partly agricultural and partly manufacturing, if agriculture and manufacture flourished side by side, half the anxieties of your Excellency's Government in dealing with the famine in the Eastern districts would have been allayed.

My Lord, there is a peculiar fitness in this discussion taking place at Dacca. There was a time when Dacca was the emporium of trade in Bengal, when its muslins were the admiration of the fashionable world in Europe. But its glories are now gone. It would be an honour to this city and to its past traditions, if, as the result of this debate, a new policy were to be inaugurated—rich in the promises of an enduring stimulus to our industrial development. It is in this hope and confidence that I have ventured to move this resolution."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said:—

"My LORD, I understand that several Hon'ble Members desire to address the House, but I think it would be convenient if I intervene at this stage in order to make it known to all concerned that Government are prepared to accept this resolution. We are asked to take measures 'as soon as it may be convenient' to carry out Mr. Swan's recommendations. Probably we should have said 'as soon as it may be practicable' instead of 'as soon as it may be convenient,' but we are not going to quarrel over this phrase, and we are quite prepared to accept the resolution as it stands. We both mean very much the same thing, though we express it differently. As Hon'ble Members know, '*ekam sad vipra bahudha vadanti.*'

For the last 20 or 30 days we have had a plethora of pamphlets and monographs and a plethora of discussions. To-day we are once more discussing the old question. I freely confess that in all these discussions on the industrial development of Bengal my feelings are somewhat damped by two waves of thought and I am sure that these same waves have a similar effect upon the feelings of the members opposite.

The first wave of thought is this—Do we really want to see beautiful Bengal turned into an ugly industrial country, with smoking chimneys everywhere? We are proud to address Bengal in the words of the poet—'*Bande Mātaram sujalām suphalām, malayaja-sitalām sasya-syāmalām Mātaram.*' Do we really want to see the hands of the beautiful mother stained with toil? Do we want to see her fresh green raiments soiled with smoke and soot? Well, this is a very natural feeling, natural both to those who were born in Bengal and to those who have made Bengal their adopted country. However, we cannot let sentimental feelings stand in our way. We must mingle things useful with things beautiful. The fact is that it is too late to turn back. We are like a man who has entered for a race. Before him, behind him and on both sides there are other competitors pressing towards the goal. To stop or to turn back is impossible. The man who does so will fall and be trampled on.

The other wave of thought which damps us when we are discussing these things is a feeling that we are passing through a large graveyard in

the dusk. We see not only the graves of hundreds of past failures. Still more "eerie," we see open graves waiting for the bodies of dying enterprises. When a small boy goes through a grave-yard in the dusk, he whistles to keep up his courage. We feel that we must also whistle. All of us have done so. No doubt, the Hon'ble Mover, when he writes articles on this subject in the *Bengalee*, has often whistled to keep up his courage. I confess that when I signed the chapter in the report of the District Administration Committee which deals with the industrial development of Bengal, I had to whistle loudly, and to tell you the truth I feel very much inclined to whistle at this moment and to ask you all to whistle with me in chorus. But the tune which I would ask you to whistle would be this :, 'If at first you don't succeed, try try try again.' We must freely admit that our failures have been many ; but when we look at other countries, we find that their initial failures were still more numerous. For example, take Australia. At one time it was a purely agricultural country, but it has been turned into a great manufacturing country. The Australians have worked through countless failures to success, and there is no reason why we should not do the same.

I now turn to Mr. Swan's Report and to the recommendations which he has made, and which, as I have said, this Government are prepared to carry out as soon as may be convenient. The first of his main recommendations relates to non-agricultural co-operative societies. This Council accepted a resolution moved by the Hon'ble Raja of Kakina in favour of establishing these societies upon a sound financial basis. The Hon'ble Mover is naturally anxious to know what we are doing in pursuance of this resolution. We have sent a copy to Mr. J. N. Mitra, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, and he has taken note of the unanimous opinion of this house. From his last Annual Report I find that several co-operative credit societies of this kind have already been established among weavers, and he proposes to extend his beneficent operations among other cottage workers. We had a most interesting discussion on this subject at the last Co-operative Credit Conference. I can assure my Hon'ble friend that throughout the country the members of the co-operative movement have taken up this problem with enthusiasm. They hope before many years are past to see two or three hundred co-operative societies of weavers and other workers scattered throughout the country. One of the chief advantages of these societies will be that they will facilitate the working of the Government patronage of Indian industries.

This brings us to the second of Mr. Swan's suggestions. He has pointed out that we might do something more in the way of Government patronage. I do not know whether the House realizes how strong and how clear are the orders of the Government of India upon this subject. The latest orders, those of July 1913, lay down as follows :—

Rule 1.—All articles which are produced in India in the form of raw material, or are manufactured in India from material produced in India, should, by preference, be purchased locally, provided that the quality is sufficiently good for the purpose, and the price not unfavourable.

Rule 2.—All articles manufactured in India from imported materials should, by preference, be purchased in India, subject, however, to the following conditions :—

(*a*) That a substantial part of the process of manufacture of the articles purchased has been performed in India.

(*b*) That the price is as low as that at which articles of similar quality can be obtained through the India Office.

(*c*) That the materials employed are subjected to such inspection and tests as may be prescribed by the Government of India.

The House will therefore, see that the guiding principles of the Government of India are that when articles are manufactured in India from Indian materials, there should be a strong preference in favour of purchasing them here and not elsewhere. In the case of such articles, it is not necessary that the Indian price should be quite as low as the price in London ; all that is required is that the price should 'not be unfavourable'. It is

only when the articles are manufactured here but the materials are imported that it is laid down that the price must be as low as the London price. In other words, the more purely Indian the article is the stronger is the injunction to buy it in India, even at a slight loss. These rules have been circulated to every department. We propose to invite the attention of all departments to these rules and to ask them to tell us what difficulties, if any, have been felt in carrying out these rules. We realize that the departments of Government are not always in a position to know where they can find Indian goods and at what price. In other words, we feel that we are not as fully in touch with the Indian market as we should like to be, and we want practical suggestions for getting into closer touch. To show that this is not an imaginary difficulty I shall lay two concrete instances before the House. The House is aware that quinine is sold by Government in glass tubes at all the mufassal post offices. These glass tubes are required annually by the Inspector-General of Prisons to the extent of 10 lakhs of tubes. Before the war he got them from an Austrian firm through the India Office at Rs. 9-1 a thousand. When the war broke out, Colonel Buchanan saw that he could no longer get his supply from Austria. He was very anxious to place his order upon the Indian market. He studied a copy of Thacker's Directory and wrote to all the firms, European and Indian, manufacturing glass in India. The lowest offer that he could get was Rs. 62-8 a thousand against Rs. 9-1 which he had previously been paying. He felt that he would not be justified in paying this very large difference of price and he was therefore compelled to obtain his supply from England at Rs. 22-6 per thousand. The House will agree that Colonel Buchanan made a genuine effort to carry out the orders of the Government of India in regard to the patronage of Indian industries. I was much impressed by the discouraging result of that effort. Therefore, when I was last in Calcutta, I made inquiries through a friend of mine, an honourable member of this Council, as to whether there was any place, not mentioned in the Directory, where these glass tubes could be made. As a result, my friend and I paid a visit to Harrison Road and there we found a number of cottage-workers making glass tumblers. They had an earthen *chula*, a pair of tongs and a blow-pipe. They were working in batches of four and they were making tumblers at the rate of 100 per man per day. Each batch of four was turning out 400 tumblers per day, or in other words, rather more than a lakh in the year. I inquired from these men whether they would make an offer for the contract of quinine tubes and they said that they would be glad to consider it. I am going to Calcutta to-morrow and one of the first things that I shall do will be to show one of our quinine tubes to these men in Harrison Road and to ascertain whether it will be possible to place the order with them. I have spoken to the Inspector-General of Jails, and he is still most anxious to place his order with any Indian firm, large or small, which can supply tubes at a reasonable price. Let us hope that our negotiations will bear fruit.

The other concrete instance which I bring to the notice of the House is embodied in a story which His Excellency has permitted me to recount. [The Hon'ble Member here displayed a coloured silk handkerchief]. This beautiful silk handkerchief belongs to His Excellency Lord Carmichael. His Excellency and his father before him and many other Scotch gentlemen have always been fond of this type of handkerchief. They have been accustomed to buy them from a firm in Edinburgh. When His Excellency was about to leave for India, he told the firm that he would no longer have to buy his handkerchiefs from them as he would easily procure them in India. When His Excellency came to Madras he sent a specimen of the handkerchief to the principal dealers in Madras, but they said that these handkerchiefs were probably made in Bengal. When His Excellency came to Bengal he made similar inquiries of the dealers in and around Calcutta, including silk manufacturers. They all examined the specimen and said that they did not know where it came from but thought it was probably from Bombay. His Excellency then inquired in Bombay but the people there said that the handkerchiefs were probably made in Burma. His Excellency made inquiries in Burma and he was told that they were probably made in Japan. His Excellency then applied to the Department of Commerce and Industry

and sent them a specimen and desired to know where it was made. After several months the reply came that the handkerchief was probably not a real Indian handkerchief but was made in the south of France. Some people would have given up the quest in dispair, but this is not the habit of Lord Carmichael. Having failed in his inquiries in India, he wrote back to the firm in Edinburgh, ordered half a dozen of the handkerchiefs and asked them as a favour to tell him where they were actually made. The handkerchiefs came in due course, and along with them a letter saying that they were made in a place called Murshidabad in the Presidency of Bengal. If His Excellency had not been persistent in this inquiry, none of us would have known that these handkerchiefs were made in Murshidabad. Now, if anybody desires to be patriotic and at the same time fashionable, I advise him to get a large supply of these 'Carmichael' handkerchiefs from the cottage-workers in the district of Murshidabad. This story is a good example of the difficulty which we all feel in getting into close touch with the producers of Indian goods.

As Hon'ble Members know, the Department of Commerce and Industry recently held an interesting exhibition in Calcutta and published pamphlets with price-lists. Of course there have been many other exhibitions of this nature, but this was the most business-like. We want to see really business-like exhibitions in every district of Bengal and we want the promoters to circulate business-like price-lists and to keep them up-to-date. This is the best way of preventing the orders of the Government of India from becoming a dead letter. In this matter our co-operative credit societies will be most useful. Let them, with the help of the Co-operative Department, draw up price-lists and send them out to large firms, including Government officers, so that all may have information. We have also recommended to the Government of India that there should be a trade correspondent in every province whose special duty will be to bring the consumers and the producers into touch with one another. Lastly, I may say that the Hon'ble Mover of this resolution and other publishers of newspapers can be most useful to us in this matter by advertising, at preferential rates, the sale of *bonâ fide* Indian goods.

Another important recommendation of Mr. Swan is that we should start demonstration factories in the same way as has been done in Madras. We all recognize that in this, as in many other matters, we have much to learn from Madras. Long before the war Madras has been active in the promotion of Indian industries. Since the war broke out they have increased their energies, giving special attention to ground-nut-pressing, soap-making, glass-making and the manufacture of paper-pulp, matches and pencils. Well, we are quite ready, we are more than anxious, to start similar demonstration factories in Bengal. If any one has read the report of the District Administration Committee, he will see that one of our strongest recommendations is in favour of starting demonstration factories. In this matter, however, everyone must recognize that the first essential is that we should have a Director of Industries. It is because Madras has got a Director of Industries that it has been able to start these successful demonstration factories. We have written to the Government of India asking for a Director of Industries and we are anxiously awaiting sanction. We do not care who is appointed so long as he is a trained business-man, and a man who will deal sympathetically with the people of this country. He may be a Briton, a Colonial or an Indian; the only thing we stipulate is that he shall not be a German. The house may want to know exactly what we shall do when we get this man. That will depend on the policy laid down by the Government of India. If I were asked in my personal capacity what I should like to see the Director doing, I would answer somewhat as follows, still in my personal capacity—'I want to have a Director with large funds and a free hand. I want to lay before him all the schemes which have been tried in other provinces, all the schemes which have been tried in Bengal, and all the suggestions which have been made for Bengal. I want the Director to travel round the country and to get into touch with the cottage-workers. I want him to start demonstrations wherever

there is good prospect of success. After his demonstration has succeeded I would authorise him, where necessary, to give loans to reliable people who propose to follow his example. And if, while all this is going on, we can be protected from alien competition by a high wall of tariffs, so much the better! The Hon'ble Mover has suggested that I am a fiscal heretic. If these opinions are heresy, I plead guilty. But after all, they are only my personal opinions and I fully recognise that we may not be allowed to do nearly so much with our Director. But at least we have good hope that we shall be allowed to make real demonstrations, demonstrations which will be of real help to the workers of this province. At the same time I must sound two notes of warning. The first is that we should not be too ambitious. We should not confine our attention to large factories, but should look with a very kindly eye to the small manufacturers, for example, to the weavers of Carmichael handkerchiefs and the tumbler-makers in Harrison Road. The second note of warning is this. Do not persist in throwing good money after bad. So far the tendency has been to confine attention to the failures, and to try to put them on their legs again. I advised you just now to 'try again'. That is still my advice. But we must do everything like sane men: we must recognise the logic of hard facts. When it has been clearly demonstrated that, owing to natural causes, climatic influences or racial considerations, a particular industry has failed and must always fail in Bengal, then it is worse then useless to go on with experiments in this particular line. If we find that a particular article can be manufactured cheaper and better in another part of India, it is useless to persist in manufacturing it in Bengal. However high our imaginary wall of protection may be against outside aliens, I do not suppose anyone in Bengal proposes to set up a wall of protection against Behar or Bombay or Madras. With these two notes of warning, I turn briefly to the main recommendations which have been put before us by Mr. Swan and by the Hon'ble Mr. Banerji.

First, as regards glass: This is an attractive subject for demonstration and perhaps we may ultimately see success. But we must remember that as far as we know at present in no part of Bengal can we get the best kind of sand for making glass. The sand has to be imported from other parts of India. That being so, it may well be that after our Director has made his experiments he will advise us that glass is not the best line for Bengal. If so, we should reluctantly give up glass and try something which is better. I may mention that my friends in Harrison Road were not using sand as their raw material. They were using broken glass collected, I suppose, from the rubbish heaps. This would, of course, limit the production of these small workers, but I am not yet convinced that they will be unable to supply the demands of Colonel Buchanan, even if they have to use broken glass as their raw material.

Then there is the question of hides and tanning. The hide question, as we all know, is mixed up with the Germans. We have now got a great opportunity for taking the hide trade out of the hands of the Germans and putting it in the hands of Indians. British traders, as I understand, avoid hides. They think that the profit does not counterbalance the smell. Hindus have religious objections to the trade. It is therefore a matter between the Germans and the Muhammadans. I am one of those who think that the right way to make war is to knock your enemy down and then put your heel on his face and turn it round and round. The last process is mainly commercial. We should place our commercial heel on the face of the prostrate Germans and we should not hesitate to turn it round and round. We should begin to do this while the Germans are still in Ahmednagar. The Muhammadan hide merchants should now bestir themselves and get a firm hold of the trade. How this is to be done is somewhat apart from our present discussion, but in the course of recent inquiries which had this end in view I came to learn certain facts about hides and tanning. In Madras they have a series of tanneries all the way from Berhampur to Tuticorin. The hides which are exported from Madras are the 'half tanned' hides prepared in these tanneries. The demand in England is for half-tanned hides, and not for the salted or arsenicated hides which are in the Calcutta

market. I made inquiries about the small tanneries in Madras and I found that they have been doing well since the outbreak of war. The capital required for such a tannery is only about Rs. 5,000. Why cannot we have such tanneries in Bengal? I am told that there are two reasons; first, that the best bark is available in Madras and not in Bengal; and secondly, that the Bengal worker gives less return for his wages than the Madras worker. These are matters which we must bring to the notice of our prospective Director of Industries. It may be that we shall get over the difficulties. On the other hand, we may have to abandon tanning and confine ourselves to raw hides.

The question of matches and pencils has been discussed by many gentlemen. I do not think that any one has so far referred to two interesting publications of the Forest Department. One of these is the 'Commercial Guide to the Forest Economic Products of India', and the other is a 'Monograph on the Prospects of the Match Industry in the Indian Empire with particulars of proposed Match Factory Sites and Woods suitable for Match Manufacture.' I do not know whether the Hon'ble Mover has seen these books. I commend them to his study and the study of all interested in this question."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI, interrupting, said :—"Are these Government publications?"

The Hon'ble Mr. BEATSON BELL :—

"Yes, they are for sale to the public. The price of the first book is Re. 1-12 and that of the second book is Re. 1. If any one studies these books, he begins to wonder whether after all we are wise in selecting matches or pencils as one of the most suitable objects for our experiments. We see from these books that if we want to have a really successful match or pencil factory, we must have three necessary factors. First, the right kind of wood should be available in a compact and homogeneous forest; secondly, the factory should be near the forest; and thirdly, the factory should be connected by rail or steamer with centres of commercial activity. Unless we have all these conditions co-existing, we are in great danger in throwing away our money. I do not want to throw cold water on this proposal, but it is quite possible that our Director may advise us that until we have a compact and homogeneous forest in a suitable place, we should not undertake this industry. At present there is a good deal of wood more or less suitable, but it is scattered through forests of other wood and the collection of it is a very expensive process. The Hon'ble Mover has referred to the experience of Mr. Sailendra Nath Mitra. I have looked up his papers and I find that we did all that we could for him. He was dealing, he had to deal, with contractors and not direct with the Forest Department. What he wanted was that the Forest Department should guarantee the supply of a minimum quantity per annum of a particular kind of wood. This the contractors were not in a position to do, and the Forest Department was not in a position to force the contractors to give such a guarantee. But the Forest Department promised to help Mr. Mitra in his dealings with the contractors, and they still hold out that promise. It is incorrect to suppose that the Forest Department is obstructive. I represent that department in this Council, and I can assure the Hon'ble Member that if any reasonable proposal is put before us we shall meet it in a reasonable spirit.

I think I have dealt with the main industries which have been mentioned in the course of the debate. The Hon'ble Mover has not mentioned saltpetre. At present there is a great demand for saltpetre, as the world is now shut off from the German supply of potash. This is a glorious opportunity, but what are we doing? There are two saltpetre factories in Calcutta, but one of them is about to be closed because the owners are quarrelling among themselves. If we want to make real headway in any industry, the first essential is that we should trust one another. The fact that many of our promising enterprises have failed in the past has simply been due to want of business character. I am not here to preach. My

Hon'ble friends know the state of affairs only too well themselves. But let us not despair. We accept this resolution and we accept it heartily, for Government are as anxious as the Hon'ble Members opposite to give a helping hand to the industries of Bengal."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY said :—

"My Lord, we are very grateful to your Lordship's Government for accepting the resolution of my Hon'ble friend Babu Surendra Nath Banerji, which I have very great pleasure in supporting. My Lord, we Bengalis must move on with the times if we want to live as a nation and have our necessaries supplied by the manufactured products of our own country and not by those of other countries. In these days when we ask for bread and receive a stone in return we must give up all sentimentalism and even our সুজলাং সুফলাং মলয়জশীতলাং শস্যশ্যামলাং মাতরং will have to be converted into a place darkened with soot and smoke because the question of the hour is how the Bengalis will survive as a nation.

I must say at the outset that the report of Mr. Swan on the industrial development of Bengal not only contains many useful suggestions, but it contains some outspoken criticisms on the policy of Government regarding the industries of the land. It appears that Government have from time to time during the last quarter of a century made some efforts to revive indigenous industries. This will appear from the reports which have appeared under the auspices of Government. Mr. Collin was entrusted with the preparation of the industrial survey and his report on the existing arts and industries in Bengal was made at the end of 1890. Mr. Cumming was entrusted in 1907-08 with the same duties when Swadeshi movement was at its height and now last, though not least, we have the report of Mr. Swan.

My Lord, the history of the industries of India or of Bengal has been for more than a century and a half a sad one. Whether it was the East India Company professedly acting as a body of tradespeople, or whether it was the Government of India under a Viceroy the policy pursued has been the same—how best to foster British manufacture even though it be at the expense of Indian manufactures.

Mr. John Ranking, one of the merchants of Calcutta, examined before a Committee of the House of Commons in 1813, testified to the prohibitive duties imposed upon piece-goods, calicoes, muslins and coloured goods imported into England and said that the real object of these prohibitive duties was to encourage British manufacture.

Speaking of this very place where your Lordship is holding your Council to-day, Sir Charles Trevelyan in his evidence before the said Committee said, 'Dacca, which was the Manchester of India, has fallen off from a very flourishing town to a very poor and small one; the distress there has been very great indeed.'

The testimony of Mr. H. H. Wilson is unequivocal. Speaking of the industries of India he said: 'It is also a melancholy instance of the wrong done to India by the country on which he has become dependent. It was stated in evidence (1813) that the cotton and silk goods of India up to the period could be sold for a profit in the British market at a price from 50 to 60 per cent. lower than those fabricated in England. It consequently became necessary to protect the latter by duties of 70 and 80 per cent. on their value, or by positive prohibition. Had this not been the case, had not such prohibitory duties and decrees existed, the mills of Paisley and Manchester would have been stopped in their outset, and could scarcely have been again set in motion even by the power of steam. They are created by the sacrifice of the Indian manufacture."

There are the testimonies of Englishmen about the treatment of Indian manufactures when the Government was in the hands of the Company. Their treatment after the country had passed under the direct government of the Crown had been no less fortunate. On pressure being put by Lancashire

mill-owners upon the then Secretary of State, Lord Salisbury, Lord Lytton exempted from duty all goods made from yarns not finer than 30 S and all yarns up to 26 S and 42 S mule, whereas comparatively heavy duties were imposed upon the cotton fabrics of the Bombay Mills. The members of the Indian Civil Service, who then formed the members of the Viceroy's Executive Council, protested against the sacrifice of Indian Finance but to no purpose. But the indirect effect of all this exemption, of reduction of import duties, and imposition of duties upon cotton-made cloths had certainly been to discourage Indian manufature. This is the simple story of how the people of India whose unrivalled manufacturing skill had been testified to by so high an authority as Sir Thomas Munroe in his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons being deprived of their occupations had turned chiefly to agriculture.

But cotton industry and silk industry were not the only industries of Bengal or of India. For various causes, the sugar, hide and other important industries gradually declined till India has become the exporter of raw materials for other countries to reap a rich havest. Even ships used to be built in India, and we read that in 1795-96 six ships as well as large vessels were built in Calcutta.

I have said that for the last quarter of a century Government have been taking some interest in the industries of the country, but that interest has so far been of an academic character. Far from Government helping any industries with subsidy as is done in some of the continental countries, Government have not thought it fit to extend their patronage to articles of local manufacture by making purchases. We find from Mr. Swan's report, 'a partner in a large Engineering firm complained to me that they do not get a chance of tendering before indents are sent to the Director-General of Stores. When they got an order, it is for a small quantity required to meet an unforeseen demand, or because the amount indented for has proved insufficient. In another case I found that certain articles of local manufacture had been brought to the notice of the head of a department by Mr. Cumming in 1908. When the factory asked for an order they received the reply—should occasion arise for the purchase of these articles locally, your letter will then be considered.' Mr. Swan suggests that the fullest opportunity of tendering should be given to local firms before indents are sent to the India Office. But I think this is not the first time that this suggestion has been made. If my memory serves me right, it is nearly a quarter of a century ago that Sir Griffiths Evans from his place in the Imperial Council thoroughly exposed these tenders and purchases of articles by the India Office, but his criticisms and suggestions fell upon deaf ears.

Mr. Swan considers (1) insufficient capital, and (2) inefficient management to be the causes of failure of industrial enterprises of this country, but I would put it to another cause also. It is the extreme apathy and want of patronage by Government.

My Lord, we all must admit that a great impetus was given to the revival of industries by the Swadeshi movement which was synchronous with the partition agitation. Not only were some of the dying industries revived, but new industries were started. According to Mr. Swan, companies for the manufacture of pencils, matches and soap, for cotton-weaving, hosiery and tanning were floated and the middle classes showed considerable enthusiasm and gave practical demonstration of their interest by subscribing largely to these concerns. But unfortunately young men who had absolutely no experience of manufactures and industries, or whose practical knowledge consisted in serving as an apprentice in a factory for five or six months in Japan or America, thought that they could undertake or be put in charge of any industrial enterprise. The result has been that in many cases, machines have been brought out, money has been spent in building factories, but men have been found to be wanting to carry on the work owing to insufficient knowledge, inefficient training and want of business capacity. But there is another cause why the Swadeshi industries which were the outcome of of the Swadeshi movement of 1905 prospered so little. Government were

in a temper. All movements which savoured of Swadeshi were looked upon with suspicion and distrust by Government, and men who had anything at stake in the country could not openly take an active part in any of these industrial movements. That there were, however, in some instances sufficient justifiction for the unsympathetic attitude of Government admits of no question. But if industrial enterprises—the outcome of the Swadeshi movement of 1905—had forfeited justly or unjustly the claims to Government patronage, other enterprises of pre-partition days, such as the Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works, met with no better treatment at the hands of the Government. While the European druggists of Calcutta had orders from Government to supply tinctures and medicines, the Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works had no direct orders from Government except as regards some chemicals. It is a fact well known to many that Government issue instructions to the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal, now known as Surgeon-General to Government, and Municipal dispensaries and hospitals for the purchase of medicines, etc., from particular firms. Special arrangements are made for payment to these firms. Has it occurred to any official to indent medicines from this enterprising establishment? Similar has been the fate of the Calcutta Pottery Works. Government in all countries, specially in India, are large consumers of many manufactured articles, and it is but natural that the people who undertake industrial enterprises should look upon Government to patronise them, if not by subsidising, at least by making purchases.

The only patronage extended by Government so far has been to give a contract since 1908 for the supply of pens to Messrs. Goopta & Co. for the Controller of Stationery. I think it was during the Viceroyalty of Lord Ripon that Mr. P. M. Bagchi had orders to supply ink to all Government offices. The only active form in which the Bengal Government have shown their sympathy towards the industries of the land is by the establishment of a weaving school at Serampore within the last few years. We are not aware if Government have given any other practical demonstration of their sympathy to improve or to foster the local industries. The Governments of Madras and the United Provinces have spent large sums in improving the industries of their respective provinces.

My Lord, the recommendations and suggestions made by Mr. Swan to foster the industries of the land are not of a far-reaching character. They are very simple, and such as would or ought to commend themselves to every Government. They are as follows:—

(1) Co-operative Credit Societies should be established among cottage-workers, such as cotton-weavers, silk-weavers and brass-workers, so that they may be free from the hands of the *mahajan*. The officer in charge of these societies should assist in the purchase of raw materials and in finding markets for the finished articles.

(2) Demonstrations in the use of improved processes and appliances should be given at suitable centres. Demonstrations might also be given in such matters as the use of the fly-shuttle for Tusser and silk-weaving and the use of an improved dye-stamping machine for brass work.

(3) (*a*) The Forest Department should make special arrangements for the supply of suitable wood on favourable terms to such industries as matches, pen and pencil-making.

(*b*) That State Railways should in certain cases only charge for the actual weight of timber carried and not for the full capacity of the waggon.

(4) That Government patronage might be extended more freely than at present to articles of local manufactures.

Some of the above suggestions of Mr. Swan have the support of recognised authorities on economics. Professor Bastabelle in his book on Public Finance lays down almost similar expedients for encouraging industry.

There is one other suggestion which has not been made by Mr. Swan, but it is an important factor in the encouragement of industry. It is the encouragement by means of bounties on production, or premiums for the establishment of new industries. It is, however, beyond the scope of the present Resolution to speak with reference to this matter, and I refrain from doing so.

My Lord, it is a notorious fact that for a number of years continental goods had been displacing British goods in this country. Winter cloths of all sorts, matches, soap, glass, pencil, dye, hide which were being sold in the Indian market were practically all imported from Germany and Austria. The British people are essentially tradespeople. One can very well understand the steps taken by them to foster their own industry at the expense of Indian industry. But what shall we say when we see that the attitude of Government towards the industries of the country has the effect or at least had the effect of indirectly fostering the growth of industries of your Teutonic relations. The time has come when the Government should assume a different attitude towards the development of the industries of the country to that which they have done in times past—the hour has come when the Government should lay down and pursue a settled policy with regard to the industrial development of this country. It needs no word of mine to impress upon your Lordship's Government the present sad industrial state of the country. The cloths that we wear every day and the sugar which we use, the iron vessels with which we cook our food, the shoes, the soap and other articles of everyday use, even the implements of husbandry, are generally of European manufacture. Under the influence of Swadeshi movement some of the industries have been partially revived and some fresh ones have been started, but the progress made has not been so far very encouraging. It is no doubt upon the honesty, the business capacity the perseverance of our own countrymen that the country must look up to for the revival of its dying and dead industries or for the starting of new ones. But, my Lord, we are handicapped in many ways. What with the duties both here and in foreign countries upon the manufactured articles of this country, what with competition with bounty-fed articles of other countries, the prospect of our industries is not and cannot be of an encouraging character. The outlook is anything but cheering. It behoves therefore for the Government not to remain anymore an idle spectator of the scene. Government themselves are partially responsible for the present state of things. If this ruinous war succeeds in bringing about the industrial development of this country, in at least displacing German, Austrian and Japan goods from the markets of India, and in giving work and food to millions of Bengal's population by reviving the indigenous industries, an incalculable good would then come out of evil and the people of Bengal will bless the days that are to come and bless your Lordship's Government for having inaugurated an era of prosperity among the teeming millions of a poor and law-abiding people."

The Hon'ble Dr. NILRATAN SARKAR said :—

"My Lord, the present industrial situation in India is one which calls for great watchfulness as well as prompt action on the part of both the Government and the people. The disappearance of Germany from the Indian market implies a displacement of trade of enormous value, a widespread disturbance of the economic equilibrium, which, unless it is guided by far-seeing and provident statemanship is bound to end in disaster. For Japan's industrial conquest of India by methods of peaceful penetration will not be restricted to those spheres of interest which have been vacated by Germany; this invasion already a *fait accompli*, and proceeding by rapid strides, if unperceived, will gather an irresistible momentum as it goes forward, carrying everything before it,—not merely chemicals, soaps, toys, or other commodities made in Germany and imported therefrom, but also cotton, silk, glass, leather, matches, etc., in fact the staple commodities of Indian Industry and of India's trade with Great Britain, and the real significance of the transfer of trade lies deep below the surface. In all the factors which go to build up the economic organization of a people, whether geographical or social, in cultural

traditions as well as in the standard of living, Japan combines the hereditary virtues of the East with the scientific acquisition of the West, the fecundity, the tenacity, the subtlety of an Oriental stock, with the versatility, the progressiveness, the efficiency, the spurt and dash of the most go-ahead Occidential type. And the Japanese will, therefore, penetrate in an Oriental country to spheres of interest which the Germans or other European people found effectually closed against them.

And it must always be remembered that the British economic connection with India has this great advantage that Great Britain and India have in one sense been complementary economic units, one predominantly manufacturing, and the other predominantly agricultural; and even as regards manufacturing industries the dividing line between large-scale machine products and small-scale machine-*cum*-hand production is the line which will for some time keep Indian and British interests from wide or injurious overlapping as well as from irresistible conflict. Japan's combination of hand-power with the power of machinery, of small scale as well as of large scale production, of cheap labour with hereditary skill, of low consumption with an increasing efficiency, of artistic craftsmanship with mechanical manipulative and inventive gifts,—all this has been rendered possible because her manufactures have an indigenous agricultural basis, such as Great Britain lacks. The unique combination of gifts and advantages gives her an irresistible power in the Indian market which she will not be slow to employ, is in fact even now employing, with marked or rather unmarked success. And it ought to be borne in mind in this connection that none of the Continental European countries (barring Russia, which does not yet count in the tale of economic expansion) has any political ambition possibilities or spheres of influence in this country, while as much cannot be said of the power in the Far East. The question, therefore, of India keeping to herself the fields of trade which till recently were occupied by Germany is one which neither the Government nor the people can shelve, and it will require for its solution the prompt and whole-hearted co-operation of both the vast resources of the Government in organising, financing, and if need be, legislating power, being judiciously employed in helping and equipping the people to meet this new economic situation.

The economic revolution in India in the last century was the displacement of the hereditary Indian artisan class by European machinery. In the present century a new revolution is threatened,—the fresh displacement of India's hard-earned economic balance by a hardy and fecund race of Orientals gifted with Occidental efficiency and resourcefulness, and yet in the coming struggle most of the factors are in India's favour if only the fight is properly led. Indian labour is sufficient in quantity, cheap, teachable, and capable of becoming more and more efficient under economic pressure. The overseers and middlemen are available; as also are, in some industries, even the trained scientific experts, who require only business experience and knowledge of local materials and conditions to become competent guides.

The raw materials are also there, lying unutilised, or utilised in a small part in the country; and improvements in agriculture and mining will supply whatever finer staples or improved materials may be required for successful competition. Private capital, though insufficient, is not entirely wanting, but it is shy and cannot be attracted towards "fresh fields" and new ventures without some degree of reasonable security. No doubt in Bengal we are somewhat lacking in business ability and instinct, but it is only after many costly failures, and much trial and error that we can expect to have in our midst captains of industry, *entrepreneurs* able to create favourable conditions and command success. The crying evil in this field is that the people are without power of initiative and without power of joint action and organization. It, therefore, behoves the Government, as being the ultimate directors in this great co-operative business and joint concern which constitutes the life of a nation, to supply the organising power.

But what stands in our way is a theory or a ghost of a theory, concerning the legitimate scope and functions of the Government, a theory which

is now obsolete, dead even in England—its Home. The theory of *laissez faire, laissez aller*, of leaving things to the course and drift of nature, the forces of competition and of individual effort, may be, and no doubt, are a sound rule for the ordinary conduct of administration, but in all international struggles where the problem is to equip the nation as a unit in the international struggle, this theory has hopelessly broken down and nowhere more so in recent times than in Great Britain, where the whole trend of recent legislative, financial, and administrative activity has been in the opposite direction. But Indian conservatism is a hardy perennial; even in the hey-day of Lloyd Georgian finance with its gospel of State Aid and State Insurance, the Secretary of State ordered a retreat in India even from those spheres of State-aided industry into which a gradual, continuous and successful advance had been made under a paternal Government keenly conscious of its obligations of guardianship to the millions of artisans. The experiments of the Directors of Industries in Madras had given aluminium and chrome leather to the depressed classes of South Indian artisans and they promised to be the mothers of a hundred more fruitful industries, but these were strangled in the womb. No doubt we can point to some beneficent State institutes in aid of industry; Agricultural Research Institutes and Technological Institutes doing research work—even an Advisory Board of Commerce and Industries with a minister presiding over it—but only the big capitalists and capitalistic organizations can possibly avail themselves of their valuable advice and profit by the fruit of their valuable researches; and the people who are most in need remain as helpless and hopeless as before; for them the one thing needful is not to be advised but to be trained to practical work, to be shown the way by being led by the hand, and to be supported with capital and credit, the sinews of their economic war; and it is certain they will in the threatened economic vicissitudes and revolution drift helplessly and aimlessly as before—a disorganized rabble—until and unless the Government give them the lead, the practical driving power, which is their one supreme need of the time.

No distribution of blue-books and pamphlets, no model farming, breeding, or seed distributing, no activities of bureaus or research institutes, no technical education in the country or provision for such education abroad, no labours of Labour Committees, Mining Committees or Conferences will save the situation created by the present crisis. In fact what is now needed is a more active industrial policy of Government—the Government should take the initiative in organizing such industries as may have a hopeful outlook in the present condition of the market and with the available resources at the disposal of the country. The methods of Government help and organization will vary according to the varying needs of the industries so selected.

Some industries, as sugar and indigo, may require a great deal of preliminary experimenting, both as regards the cultivation of crops and the subsequent manufacture of material; and these important industries, for which India has special capabilities, can be rehabilitated only if Government were to carry the initial experimental stages to completion so as to place them on a market basis and then make over the concerns to private parties or companies on fair and reasonable terms. In some industries Government may help by the supply of the raw material as Mr. Swan points out in his Report. The Forest Department may make a suitable arrangement for the supply of suitable wood to industries such as matches, and pen and pencil making. In other cases, the chief difficulty is to find an adequate market for the manufactured commodity which cannot be profitably produced except on a large scale, and here Government may help by placing large orders and contracts during the initial stages, as for example at the Tata Steel and Iron Works. Other industries, such as those of cotton-weavers, silk-weavers and brass-founders, improved tools, for example, fly-shuttle looms, lathes, hand machines, may be supplied on a system of loan and recovery by instalments. Local demonstrations may be given in the use of these tools and processes, and co-operative credit societies may also be established among cottage-

Government can render material help to the growth of new industries in the country the most fruitful and far-reaching are—

(*i*) the supply of loanable capital on easy terms on the basis of reasonable security, and

(*ii*) the grant of transport facilities by the control of railway rates and steamer freight, as well as by extension of railway lines.

As regards the supply of capital, it may be noted that there are important industries, for example, dyes, glass-ware, etc., which under present conditions of competition require larger capital than private individuals in India are in a position to invest, and joint-stock companies as yet do not command sufficient credit to raise the money.

For financing such industries a central bank advancing loans on adequate security, on cheap terms, should be among the first concerns of the State in India. It is a matter of common knowledge that in France and in Japan State Banks such as the State Bank of France and the Bank of Japan were originally founded with the object, among others, of assisting industry and agriculture by supplying the use of loanable capital at a moderate charge to farmers and manufacturers on reasonable security. For some time here in India the project of a Central State Bank has been in the air ; but in the various schemes proposed, while such necessary matters as the custody of the Government balances and the Government reserves, the adjustment of the currency, etc., have been properly kept in view, I do not notice that one of the primary objects of such banks in all progressive countries, namely, the supply of loanable capital to support agriculture and industry, has been at all mooted in the course of the discussion. It will be said that this will be within the province of the Presidency Banks. But as a matter of fact the Presidency Banks do not serve the primary need of financing the indigenous industries. They enjoy many of the advantages of State Banks as custodians of Government deposits and balances and in many other ways, but they confine themselves to financing the carrying trade and the export and import business and some well-established mills, and their resources, though repleted by public funds, are not available for discharging some of the vital obligations and responsibilities of State Banks. Only the establishment of a State Bank in India with the object of not only carrying on the currency operations but also of supporting the agriculture and industries of the country with the use of capital on reasonable security can meet the needs of the situation.

In the same way facilities for transport are necessary in a much larger degree than are now granted by the existing Railway administrations. My friend Mr. S. C. Ghose points out in his note, 'increased control on the part of the Government in the matter of fixing railway rates is required in the public interest as well as the appointment of a permanent commissioner to hear complaints from the trading interests concerned.' There have been instances, as Sir V. Thackersay once remarked, where equal rates under equal conditions have been refused to certain mills and traders. The following extract from Mr. Ghose's report will show the anomalous position in this regard :—

'According to the East Indian Railway scale the charge for flour for 550 miles is As. 7-2 per maund and over the Great Indian Peninsula Railway As. 8-9. But if the traffic was carried for 275 miles over the East Indian Railway and 275 miles over the Great Indian Peninsula, the freight would be As. 11 per maund.'

Whatever may be thought of the policy of the State working of railways in India there can be no doubt that the control over rates should be assumed by the Government in the public interest.

Another important help which the Government may render to the development of indigenous industries would be by the starting of bureaus and agencies for the creation and expansion of markets in the country and abroad, and in this matter we cannot do better than follow the example set by the Japanese Government.

These are some of the ways in which the Government may help the Indian people to meet the growing economic situation brought on by the war. Indeed this momentous problem can be solved only by the Government assuming the leadership of the people."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI said :—

"My Lord, I desire to express my thanks to the Government for accepting this resolution, and I am sure the country will be grateful to Your Excellency's Government for the pronouncement which the Government have made that they will do all in their power to help on Indian industries in Bengal by direct efforts. Only one more comment I desire to make on my friend's observations. The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell has, in the course of the debate, said that we do not know where we can get indigenous articles. It is perfectly true that we have often failed owing to this cause. But the remedy is in the hands of the Government; all that we have to do is to establish a Museum for the permanent exhibition of indigenous industries. In 1899 such an exhibition was held in London. The Japanese Government holds such an exhibition for the purpose of the exhibition of Japanese goods. Last year, I think, Japanese agents came over to this country and exhibited a lot of their goods. This is, my Lord, a matter which the Government should take up, namely, that it should start a permanent museum for the exhibition of indigenous articles. People would then know where they are made. All that information would also be available to the Government and to the public. That is a suggestion which I desire to throw out for the acceptance of my Hon'ble friend."

The motion was then put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 7.

7. The Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray moved the following resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the Government of India be approached with a request to provide funds for the purchase and maintenance of a second dredger for the Port of Chittagong.

He said :—

"My Lord,

When replying to an address from the Port Commissioners of Chittagong in the year 1904, His Excellency the Viceroy stated that Government would assist them by supplying a dredger to clear the bars for big steamers. In fulfilment of this promise the Government of India presented the Port with its present dredger *Karnafuli No. 1.* This has done good work and though one dredger was considered sufficient at the beginning the time has come when it can hardly cope with the demand.

When Your Excellency visited Chittagong for the first time in August 1912 the members of the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce brought to Your Excellency's notice the recommendations of a sub-committee of experts who advocated the necessity for a second dredger for the Port. Your Excellency in reply was pleased to remark as follows :—

'I can assure you that the Government of Bengal are deeply interested in the prosperity of Chittagong. We have already given you, I hope, a proof of our interest in the recent grant of 1½ lakhs from Provincial funds. We gave you this grant for your dredging and revetment, although we have received nothing towards it from the Government of India . . . . We will do our best to represent your views to the Government of India who will after all be the chief gainers by the development of your port. If your

port is to be kept in its present state of efficiency, dredging operations must continue and the revetment work must be maintained.'

At that time Your Excellency was under the impression that the *Karnafuli No. 1* was sufficient for the needs of the port until such time as the expansion of trade should attract steamers of a larger draught. The necessity for a second dredger is being keenly felt not merely on account of the expansion of trade but also in consequence of the rapid shoaling of the river at various places. The salt trade of the port has a constant tendency to expand, and it will be a matter of surprise to many when I say that in spite of a higher rate of freight for salt to Chittagong than to Calcutta from the manufacturing countries the price of all descriptions of salt has for the last few years been considerably less at Chittagong than at Calcutta. And yet salt steamers have been the worst sufferers at the former port. The steamers *Benlawers*, *Sutlej* and *Heligoland*, which came to Chittagong with salt within the last four months, and the *Olive*, which is now discharging her cargo of salt at that port, had all been detained outside the bar in some cases for over ten days for lack of sufficient water at the bars. Other steamers also had similar experience, and at present agents for steamship companies hesitate to consider Chittagong as a port of discharge owing to this very cause. In his speech on the last budget the Hon'ble Mr. Bayley gave some instances of Clan Line steamers being compelled to sail without full cargoes either to avoid being neaped or because of being neaped. Steamers with rice and paddy also had similar experience. Further evidence is not required to convince Your Excellency's Government about the need of a second dredger for the port of Chittagong. The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell in closing the debate on the budget on the 6th April last referred to the resolution I was permitted to move in this very hall last year and which Your Excellency's Government so kindly accepted, and he also remarked that he could make no pronouncement beyond referring to the said resolution. The public are anxious to know what effect has been given to the resolution. The Hon'ble Member paid a visit to the port recently accompanied by the Hon'ble Mr. Cowley, and both found out for themselves what are the things urgently needed. Both of them recognized that the present dredging arrangements are clearly defective and should be improved as soon as funds can be obtained. Your Excellency also during your recent visit to the port was convinced of the urgency of the scheme. Your Excellency's Government are aware of the recommendations made by Sir Francis Spring in this connection, and when the necessity has been established beyond any doubt the ways and means to meet it rest entirely with Your Excellency's Government. There is an apprehension in certain quarters that the repartition of Bengal has resulted in the brushing aside of the needs of this port in the interests of Calcutta; whether it is true or not we have the assurance that Your Excellency's Government 'always have had and always will continue to have a very kindly eye on the port of Chittagong.' We are thankful for this sympathetic assurance and relying on it I venture to suggest that the Government of India be moved to come to the rescue by supplying the immediate requirements in the shape of a more powerful dredger with suitable appliances and hopper barges as asked for by the Port Commissioners of Chittagong at a total cost of about 14 lakhs of rupees which they would welcome to have as a grant and not as a loan, and also by meeting the costs of maintenance of the same. Otherwise the enormous amounts of money already spent for revetment and dredging as well as the capital outlay for the railway and the terminal jetties will prove a sheer waste.

The Port of Chittagong is yet a young one and will take some time to become financially strong. Government subsidies have been liberally granted for its improvements and will have to be continued for some years before substantial proofs of return can be expected. The present income of the port is not sufficient to bear the burden of interest charges and of repayment of instalments of a large loan. Facilities given to ocean-going steamers of heavier draughts will no doubt result in the expansion of trade, thereby securing good return in the near future, a reliable forecast of which cannot be given at present by even the best experts in the mercantile line.

Apart from the benefit derivable by the Port and the Railway, the present large addition of about 15 lakhs of rupees to the Imperial Revenue from customs duty on salt alone at Chittagong will justify liberal contributions from the Imperial Revenue for the improvement of this port."

The Hon'ble MR. BAYLEY said :—

"My Lord I beg to associate myself with the remarks made by the Hon'ble Babu Upendra Lal Ray in moving his Resolution in which he recommends that the Government of India be approached with the request to provide funds for the purchase and yearly maintenance of a second dredger for the Port of Chittagong. In my remarks in this Council in April of this year I gave reasons to show that a second dredger is urgently required. There is no need for me to repeat what I then said. Also the Port Commissioners, Chittagong, have since then had the advantage of a visit from the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell, who, after inquiring into the matter on the spot, intimated that necessary funds could only be expected from the Government of India. Chittagong has also quite recently had the honour of a visit from Your Excellency, during which, I think, Your Excellency was able to inquire yourself as to whether the request for a second dredger is reasonable or not. It is agreed, I think, that the river requires immediate attention, and that dredging is the first requirement, and I trust, therefore, that Your Excellency's Government will at a very early date urge the Government of India to afford the desired relief at the earliest possible moment.

With these words, my Lord, I beg to support the Resolution."

The Hon'ble MR. BEATSON BELL said :—

"My Lord, I am glad to say that we accept this Resolution. Our letter to India on this subject was under preparation before we received notice of this Resolution. We are now in correspondence with the Port Commissioners in order to obtain some further information. I need hardly say that we desire to make our reference to India as cogent and convincing as possible."

The motion was then put and agreed to

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned *sine die*.

A. M. HUTCHISON,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal and Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council. (*Offg.*)

CALCUTTA,

The 6th August 1915.

B. S. Press—27-8-1915—1316J—350—J. L. C.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, 1892, and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Saturday, the 4th September, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble COL. W. R. EDWARDS, C.B., C.M.G.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. LANG.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. K. C. DE, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. DONALD.

The Hon'ble MR. L. BIRLEY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. A. COWLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. B. C. MITRA.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. C. TWIDELL.

The Hon'ble MR. H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble the NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., AMIR-UL-OMRAH.

The Hon'ble SIR S. P. SINHA, KT.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. BYOMKESH CHAKRAVARTI.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. BIRKMYRE.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSAIN.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. I.

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Hon'ble Mr. De made an affirmation of his allegiance to the Crown

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. II.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR:—

Employment of Indians in the Calcutta Improvement Trust.

*1. Will the Government be pleased to state what is the maximum pay at which Indians are at present employed on the permanent establishment of the Calcutta Improvement Trust, and how many Indians are serving on that pay?

The Hon'ble MR. DE replied:—

"The maxium pay at which Indians are at present employed under the Calcutta Improvement Trust is Rs. 250—20—350, with a conveyance allowance of Rs. 75 per mensem. There is one Indian serving in this grade at present."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

*2. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing, department by department, the present monthly expenditure of the Calcutta Improvement Trust on account of its Establishment Charges?

The Hon'ble MR DE replied :—

"A statement embodying the information, for which the Hon'ble Member asks, is laid upon the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble MR. DE *to Question No. 2 (starred) asked by the Hon'ble* RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR, *at the Council Meeting of the 4th September, 1915, showing the present monthly expenditure of the Calcutta Improvement Trust on account of its Establishment charges.*

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Chairman's Office—			
Clerical Establishment	357 4 1		
Menial ,, ...	133 15 10		
			491 3 11
Secretary and Chief Accountant ...			600 0 0
Secretary's Office—			
Clerical Establishment	200 0 0		
Menial ,, ...	20 0 0		
			220 0 0
Accounts Department—			
Clerical Establishment	396 0 0		
Menial ,, ...	25 0 0		
			421 0 0
Chief Valuer's Department—			
Salary and Allowance of Chief Valuer	2,250 0 0		
Salary and Allowance of Deputy Valuer	750 0 0		
Salary and Allowance of Deputy Valuer	700 0 0		
		3,700 0 0	
Valuation Establishment	2,069 5 3		
Survey ,, ...	844 9 6		
Drawing ,, ...	811 0 0		
Clerical ,, ...	589 0 6		
Tribunal Staff	90 0 0		
Temporary Establishment ...	203 5 4		
Menial ,, ...	460 15 2		
		5,068 3 9	
			8,768 3 9
Trust Engineer's Department—			
Salary and Allowance of Trust Engineer	.....	1,750 0 0	
Clerical Establishment	313 0 0		
Drawing ,, ...	464 10 3		
Outdoor ,, ...	289 0 0		
Menial ,, ...	158 5 10		
		1,225 0 1	
			2,975 0 1
Estates Manager's Office—			
Salary and Allowance of Estates Manager	325 0 0		
Clerical Establishment	80 0 0		
Collection ,, ...	93 15 9		
Menial ,, ...	30 0 0		
			528 15 9
		Total ...	14,004 7 6

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Pay and allowances of Chief Valuer of the Calcutta Improvement Trust.

*3. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what was the pay originally fixed for the post of the Chief Valuer of the Calcutta Improvement Trust ?

(*b*) When, and on what terms, did the present incumbent join the post ?

(*c*) What increments did he obtain, and on what dates ?

(*d*) What is the salary of the corresponding post in the Bombay Improvement Trust ?

(*e*) What was the original motor allowance attached to the post in the Calcutta Improvement Trust ?

(*f*) When, and how many times, was it increased ?

The Hon'ble MR. DE replied :—

"(*a*) (*b*) & (*c*) In June, 1912, Government sanctioned the creation, by the Calcutta Improvement Trust, of the appointment of a Land Valuer on a salary of Rs. 1,250 a month rising by annual increments of Rs. 50 to Rs. 1,500. Mr. Shrosbree joined this post in January, 1913, the appointment being terminable by six months' notice on either side. He was subordinate to the Chief Engineer, who was responsible for the preparation of schemes. On the abolition of the post of Chief Engineer in April, 1913, the Chief Valuer and the Trust Engineer were made jointly responsible for the preparation of schemes, and the salary of each was fixed at Rs. 1,500 a month rising by annual increments of Rs. 50 to Rs. 1,750. The Chief Valuer has since been made solely responsible for the preparation of schemes, and the Local Government have sanctioned, upon certain conditions, a proposal to raise Mr. Shrosbree's pay to Rs. 2,000 a month rising by annual increments of Rs. 100 to Rs. 2,500.

(*d*) There is no post under the Bombay Improvement Trust corresponding to the present post of Chief Valuer under the Calcutta Improvement Trust.

(*e*) & (*f*) Mr. Shrosbree was first granted a conveyance allowance of Rs. 75 a month. An allowance of Rs. 100 a month for the upkeep of a motor-car was granted from the 25th February, 1913. This has been increased to Rs. 150 a month from the 1st April, 1913."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Pay of Chairman of the Calcutta Improvement Trust.

*4. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what is the present graded pay of the Hon'ble Mr. Bompas, I.C.S., in the *cadre* of the Indian Civil Service ?

(*b*) What permanent appointment was he holding before he was appointed Chairman of the Calcutta Improvement Trust ; and what pay was he receiving in that appointment ?

(*c*) What was the date of his appointment to the Calcutta Improvement Trust ? On what pay and allowances was he so appointed ?

(*d*) What increment has been so far granted to him since his appointment to the Trust, and what were the reasons for raising the salary ?

(*e*) What are the salary and allowances of the Chairman of the Bombay Improvement Trust ?

The Hon'ble MR. DE replied :—

"(*a*) The Hon'ble Member is referred to pages 10 and 11 of the Civil List for Bengal corrected up to 1st July, 1915.

(*b*) Before his appointment as Chairman of the Calcutta Improvement Trust, Mr. Bompas was a substantive Magistrate and Collector of the first grade (pay Rs. 2,250 a month) and was posted to Howrah.

(*c*) Mr. Bompas was appointed to be Chairman of the Calcutta Improvement Trust with effect from the 2nd January, 1912, on a salary of Rs. 3,000 per mensem *plus* a monthly house rent and conveyance allowance of Rs. 500 for three years.

(*d*) When Mr. Bompas was reappointed after his first term of three years, Government took into account all the circumstances of the case and considered it desirable to exercise its powers under the proviso to section 11 of the Calcutta Improvement Act.

(*e*) It appears from the Bombay Civil List that the Chairman of the Bombay Improvement Trust draws a salary of Rs. 3,000 and a conveyance allowance of Rs. 100 a month."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

* 5. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that, in acquisition cases before the Land Acquisition Collector of the Calcutta Improvement Trust, the officers of the Trust send to the Collector their own estimates of valuation?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether or not an interchange of views takes place between the officers of the Trust and the Collector in respect of acquisition cases regarding valuation of which the claimants concerned have no notice, and whether or not such interchange of views, if any, is in accordance with the provisions of the law?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

(*a*) "Yes.

(*b*) The procedure which is followed is described in the Special Land Acquisition Collector's letter No. 321 L.A., dated 6th May, 1914, addressed to the Chairman of the Calcutta Improvement Trust, which letter has been reproduced on pages 97 and 98, Appendix II of the Annual Report on the Operations of the Calcutta Improvement Trust for the year 1914-15. The Governor in Council is advised that the procedure is legal."

By the Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of NASHIPUR :—

* 6. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the case of the abduction of a respectable Hindu girl by some Muhammadans in the village of Bhowal (Dacca)?

(*b*) Is it the case that several similar outrages have recently been committed in Bengal?

(*c*) If so, will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) they have taken, or are taking, to put a stop to the occurrence of these outrages?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"(*a*) A case of abduction was reported at the end of July from a village named Bhadun in the Dacca district. The facts are disputed and the case is still under inquiry. Government are not aware that any similar case has occurred in the village of Bhowal.

(*b*) Cases of abduction have occurred within the last few months in the Jamalpur subdivision of the district of Mymensingh. In answer to a question asked by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur a memorandum was laid on the table at the meeting of this Council held on the 26th July last, giving particulars of six cases in that subdivision.

(*c*) As was stated in answer to the question of the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, the local officers are fully alive to the necessity of taking prompt and vigorous action for the suppression of crime of this nature."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

* 7. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of stations on the Assam-Bengal Railway lines and the names of the stations on that Railway which have platforms for passengers?

(*b*) Are the Government aware of the representations made from time to time to the Assam-Bengal Railway authorities for providing Sitakund, Barabkund, Comilla, Chandpur, Noakhali and other important stations with platforms, and of the result of those representations?

(*c*) Is it a fact that every year during the Shivaratri *mela* and on other religious occasions pilgrims from various parts of India visit Sitakund and Barabkund and many of them also pass through Chandpur station?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is in contemplation to construct platforms for passengers at the important stations where they do not exist at present?

(*e*) If so, when is the work likely to be accomplished?

The Hon'ble MR. COWLEY replied :—

"(*a*) In Bengal there are 57 stations. Of these, two have raised platforms, viz., Chittagong and Laksham.

(*b*) Until the Hon'ble Member put this question, the Local Government were not aware of any such representations. They have since learned that such representations have been made to the Railway authorities.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative

(*d*) & (*e*) The Railway authorities do not at present propose to construct raised platforms at any other station."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

The Rajabari monument

*8. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the *math* (monument) at Rajabari, in the district of Dacca, is included in the list of monuments under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that this monument has for several generations been serving as an important landmark for the locality?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken to repair and maintain this monument?

The Hon'ble MR. DE replied :—

"(*a*) The *math* at Rajabari, in the district of Dacca, is not included in the list of monuments under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act

(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) The *math* has hitherto been repaired by Raja Srinath Roy."

By the Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY :—

Promotion of Sub-Registrars to the Provincial and Subordinate Civil Services.

*9. (*a*) In view of the reply of the Hon'ble Mr. Cumming to the question asked by the Hon'ble Rai Prasanna Kumar Ray Bahadur on the 26th March, 1914, will the Government be pleased to state whether any recommendation has been made by the Inspector-General of Registration on behalf of any Sub-Registrar for promotion to the Provincial or Subordinate Civil Service?

(*b*) If so, with what result?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"(*a*) Last year the Inspector-General of Registration recommended two Sub-Registrars for appointment as Sub-Deputy Collectors.

(*b*) The claims of these two officers were considered, but it was not found possible to appoint them."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Flo Comill Noakh

* 10. (*a*) Are the Government aware that reports published in the Press from non-official sources describe the greater part of the Brahmanbaria Subdivision and a considerable part of the Sadar Subdivision, in the district of Comilla, to have been flooded in a very serious manner?

(*b*) Was the estimate of two hundred and fifty square miles, as being the extent of the flooded area in Comilla, made by Government before or after the last floods which occurred in those areas?

(*c*) What is the present state of the floods in Comilla and Noakhali?

(*d*) Is it a fact that a portion of the Chandpur Subdivision has since the date of the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell's statement, been flooded?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

(*a*) "Yes.

(*b*) Floods rose in the district of Tippera, particularly in the Brahmanbaria subdivision, on three distinct occasions—in the beginning of June, the beginning of July and the beginning of August. The estimate of 250 square miles was made after the second rise. The area now seriously flooded is about 360 square miles.

(*c*) Apart from comparatively small areas, which are receiving the attention of the local officers, the condition of the whole of Noakhali, and of the Sadar and Chandpur subdivisions of Tippera, is now normal. In Brahmanbaria the condition is more serious. The area of this subdivision is 759 square miles. It is physically similar to the adjoining district of Sylhet in Assam. It is low lying and comprises many large *beels*, locally known as *haors*. The main crops in the subdivision, taken in order of sequence, are as follows:—*Boro* rice, which is transplanted on the edges of the *haors* in February and is reaped in May; *aus* rice, which is sown in April and reaped in July, jute, which is sown in April and reaped in August and September, *barshul* rice, which is sown broadcast in the *haors* in April and reaped in November and December; transplanted *aman* rice, which is transplanted in the higher lands in August and September and reaped in December and January, and *rabi* crops (mustard, pulse, etc.), which are sown soon after the rains have subsided and reaped in the spring. The first rise in the floods (June) occurred after the *boro* rice had been reaped and while the *aus* rice, jute and *barshul* rice were standing. The second rise (July) occurred when the *aus* rice was almost ripe and the jute and *barshul* rice were still standing. The third rise (August) occurred at the time when, in normal years, the reaping of jute begins, the *barshul* rice is about half grown, and the seed beds are being prepared for the transplanted *aman* rice. All the crops of the year, with the exception of the *boro* rice (which had been reaped before the floods came) and the *rabi* crops (the time for which has not yet come), were therefore affected to a greater or less extent. At present the estimate is as follows:—

	Square miles
Boro rice—	
Good crop reaped	15
Indifferent crop reaped	3
Total	18
Jute—	
Wholly destroyed	36
Indifferent or poor crop being reaped	24
Fair crop being reaped	31
Total	91

	Square miles.
Barshul rice—	
Wholly destroyed	220
Indifferent or poor crop standing	50
Fair crop standing	20
Total ...	290
Transplanted *aman* rice—	
Transplantation now hopeless	80
Transplantation doubtful	150
Transplantation certain	50
Total area normally transplanted ...	280

(*d*) Yes. In the middle of August floods rose for about a week in the Matlab thana of Chandpur subdivision. The area affected and the damage done were comparatively small. Floods also rose for a few days in the same subdivision towards the end of August, but no damage has yet been reported."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Government relief in the distressed areas.

* 11. (*a*) Have the Government ascertained the number of persons who are in actual need of agricultural loans and of gratuitous relief in the distressed areas ?

(*b*) What is the number of persons who have been provided with loans and what is the average amount of loan given to each individual ?

(*c*) What is the number of persons now in receipt of gratuitous relief given by Government, in each district and subdivision ?

(*d*) What is the amount of money actually distributed by local authorities since the 26th of July last for the purpose of—

(*i*) agricultural loans, and

(*ii*) gratuitous relief,

in each subdivision of the two affected districts ?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

(*a*) "Apart from Brahmanbaria subdivision, there are comparatively few people still in need of agricultural loans or gratuitous relief. Their cases are all being attended to. In Brahmanbaria subdivision it is estimated at present that 30,000 households will ultimately require agricultural loans and 2,500 households gratuitous relief. The local officers anxiously considered the time at which loans and gratuitous relief could, with most benefit, be distributed by Government. Owing to the agricultural conditions already explained they came to the conclusion that the main distribution should begin in September. Lists of recipients are now complete and large distributions from Government sources will be made from now onwards. Meanwhile urgent cases have been dealt with by private charitable organizations, assisted by Government officers. It will be convenient to state here that up to date the Commissioner of Chittagong has received Rs. 8,00,000 from Government for agricultural loans and Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief. Whatever further grants are necessary will be made. Apart from purely Government grants, Rs. 20,000 has been allotted from the Joy Govind Law Trust and Rs. 3,000 from the Ram Lal Mookerji Trust. Both these trusts are administered by the Revenue Secretary of this Government.

(*b*) The households which have already received agricultural loans are as follows :—

District	Subdivision.	Number of households.	Average loan.
			Rs. As.
Tippera ...	Sadar ...	4,345	7 4
	Chandpur ...	4,108	7 0
	Brahmanbaria ...	1,334	6 1
Noakhali ...	Sadar ...	6,732	7 12
	Feni ...	3,162	6 12

Except in Brahmanbaria, the distress was of short duration. The future loans in Brahmanbaria will be on a larger scale.

(*c*) In the Noakhali district and in the Chandpur subdivision of Tippera no person is now receiving gratuitous relief from Government, though many received it while the distress lasted in those areas. In the Sadar subdivision of Tippera 702 persons are now in receipt of gratuitous relief from Government. In Brahmanbaria subdivision, as already explained, the distribution of Government money in gratuitous relief is just beginning, but Government officers have been assisting in the distribution of rice and money subscribed from private sources.

(*d*) Since 26th July the following sums have been distributed :—

District.	Subdivision.	Agricultural loans.	Gratuitous relief
			Rs.
Tippera ...	Sadar ...	4,250	1,660
	Chandpur ...	5,155	...*
	Brahmanbaria	2,859	473
Noakhali ...	Sadar ...	9,550	1,752
	Feni ...	616	71 "

* Figures not received.

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Distribution of *aman* seedlings in the areas where crops have been destroyed by flood.

*12. Have the Government taken any measures for the distribution of *aman* seedlings in those areas where crops have been destroyed by flood ?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

"It has been ascertained by inquiries in the villages that *aman* seedlings are available locally in sufficient quantities. In the *barshul* area there is of course no question of seedlings. In the area normally under transplanted *aman* the difficulty does not lie in the availability of seedlings but in the doubt whether the floods will subside from the fields in time. Only a portion of the seed beds were flooded. Some cultivators have seedlings in their own homesteads, while those who have not will be able to purchase them from Kasba and Hill Tippera. The cultivators prefer this arrangement, and one of the main objects of the loans which are now being distributed is the purchase of seedlings."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Alleged deaths from starvation in district of Comilla.

*13. (*a*) Is it a fact that some cases of suicide, owing to distress, have taken place within the district of Comilla ?

(*b*) Have any deaths, which can be traced directly or indirectly to starvation, occurred in the month of August in this district ?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

(*a*) "Yes, three cases of suicide, due directly or indirectly to distress, unfortunately occurred in the district of Tippera. Two of the victims were married women and one was a boy of 12.

(*b*) No, so far as Government can ascertain."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Relief to poorer *bhadralok* classes in Eastern Bengal.

*14. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the poorer *bhadralok* classes in Eastern Bengal are mainly dependent on agricultural rents, and that, owing to the low price of jute last year, they received no rents from their tenants ?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that the ordinary measures of relief organised by Government do not usually reach these classes ?

(*c*) What special steps have been taken by Government to afford relief to them ?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

(*a*) "Taking the Hindu *bhadralok* classes as Brahmans, Baidyas and Kayasthas, the Hon'ble Member will see from the Census Tables that in the Chittagong Division about 14 per cent. are dependent on agricultural rents and 86 per cent. on other sources. Collections of rent were generally short in 1914-15, but it is not a fact that no rents were collected.

(*b*) Government are aware that many members of the *bhadralok* classes are averse from applying for gratuitous relief from Government, though they have less hesitation in receiving agricultural loans.

(*c*) As regards members of the *bhadralok* classes, who have land and who require agricultural loans, the local officers have been instructed to give them loans as readily as they would do in the case of cultivators of other classes. They have also been instructed to make special inquiries to ascertain the cases of landless members of the *bhadralok* classes who are in real distress and who are prepared to receive gratuitous relief from Government."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Grant of relief by the Raja of Hill Tippera and other zamindars.

* 15. Will the Government be pleased to state whether relief has been given to their tenants by the Raja of Hill Tippera, the Sarail Estate in Brahmanbaria, now under the Court of Wards, and other zamindars, both resident and non-resident, in the districts of Tippera and Noakhali ?

The Hon'ble Mr. BIRLEY replied :—

"The Raja of Hill Tippera, the Sarail Wards' Estate, and some other zamindars of Tippera and Noakhali have given relief to their tenants."

By the Hon'ble DR. NILRATAN SARKAR :—

Total amounts of money given in agricultural loans and gratuitous relief on the occasion of the floods in Burdwan and Midnapur in 1913.

* 16. Will the Government be pleased to state the total amounts of money given in agricultural loans and gratuitous relief on the occasion of the floods in Burdwan and Midnapur in 1913 ?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

"On the occasion of the floods in 1913, Rs. 45,518 was spent by Government on gratuitous relief and Rs. 13,500 was distributed as agricultural loans in the district of Burdwan, while in the district of Midnapore Rs. 20,165 was spent by Government on gratuitous relief and Rs. 2,13,662 was distributed as agricultural loans."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ :—

Accommodation of Muhammadan students.

1. Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Muhammadan students in the various colleges in Calcutta, class by class, and also to state how these students are accommodated in the matter of hostels ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. DE was laid on the table :—

"A statement showing the number of Muhammadan students in the various colleges in Calcutta, class by class, and the number accommodated in hostels is laid on the table."

***Statement** referred to in the Answer by the* HON'BLE MR. DE *to Question No. I (unstarred) asked by the* HON'BLE MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ *at the Council Meeting of the 4th September, 1915, showing the number of Muhammadan students reading in the different classes of Calcutta colleges and giving particulars regarding their residence.*

NAME OF COLLEGE AND CLASSES.	Number of Muhammadans in the class.	Number of students residing in the Baker and Elliott Madrasah Hostels	Number of students residing in the new temporary Government Hostel	Number of students in College Hostels.
1	2	3	4	5
Presidency College.				
1st year I.A.	21	6	.....	.....
1st „ I.Sc.	17	5	.....	.....
2nd „ I.A.	27	11	.....	.....
2nd „ I.Sc.	11	2	.....	.....
3rd „ B.A.	18	10	.....	.....
3rd „ B.Sc.	2	1	.....	.....
4th „ B.A.	21	9	.....	.....
4th „ B.Sc.	11	2	.....	.....
5th „	6	.....	.....	.....
6th „	5	.....	.....	.....
Bethune College	.....	.....	.....	.....
David Hare Training College ...	4	.....	.....	2
St. Xavier's College.				
1st year I.A.	53	12	1	.....
1st „ I.Sc.	6	.....	.....	.....
2nd „ I.A.	51	10	1	.....
2nd „ I.Sc.	6	.....	.....	.....
3rd „ B.Sc.	.....	.....	.....	.....
4th „ B.Sc.	4	1	.....	.....
Bishop's College	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Paul's Cathedral Mission College.				
2nd year class	3	.....	.....	2
4th „ „	7	.....	.....	5
Scottish Churches College.				
1st year I.Sc.	1	.....	.....	.....
2nd „ I.A.	1	.....	.....	.....
L.M.S. College, Bhowanipore ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
City College.				
1st year class	49	.....	.....	.....
2nd „ „	63	.....	.....	.....
3rd „ „	54	.....	.....	.....
4th „ „	42	.....	.....	.....
Bangabasi College.				
1st year class	15	.....	2	.....
2nd „ „	15	1	1	.....
3rd „ „	2	.....	.....	.....
4th „ „	3	.....	.....	.....

NAME OF COLLEGE AND CLASSES.	Number of Muhammadans in the class.	Number of students residing in the Baker and Elliott Madrasah Hostels	Number of students residing in the new temporary Government Hostel.	Number of students in College Hostels.
1	2	3	4	5
University Law College.				
1st year class	37	.....	.....	.....
2nd „ „	35	.....	.....	.....
3rd „ „	47	.....	.....	.....
	119	.....	.....	30*
Ripon College.				
1st year class	41	.....	8	.....
2nd „ „	19	.....	4	3
3rd „ „	16	2	1	1
4th „ „	31	2	3	3
Central College, Calcutta.				
1st year class	5	.....	.....	.....
2nd „ „	18	1	.....	2

* Of the 119 Muhammadan students, 30 are accommodated in the Law College Mess at No 2, Mirzapur Street and the rest are living with their guardians or in other messes

By the Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ:—

Listed appointments permanently filled by members of the Judicial branch of the Provincial Service

II. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of listed appointments temporarily or permanently filled by members of the Judicial branch of the Provincial Service since the 1st April 1912;

(*b*) the names of the officers selected to fill those posts; and

(*c*) how many of those officers were residents of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions, and how many were residents of the Dacca, Chittagong and Rajshahi Divisions?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. KERR was laid on the table:—

"(*a*) (*b*) A statement containing the information is laid on the table.

(*c*) The twelve officers resided or reside—

3 in the Presidency Division,
4 in the Burdwan Division,
3 in the Dacca Division,
1 in Bihar and Orissa,
1 in Assam.

Statement referred to in the Answer by the HON'BLE MR. KERR *to Question No. II (unstarred) asked by the* HON'BLE MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ *at the Council Meeting of the 4th September, 1915, showing the list of officers holding listed posts of District and Sessions Judges.*

1912 (since April).

	Name.	Place of residence.
1.	Mr. Syed Nurul Huda	Patna (Bihar and Orissa).
2.	Barada Charan Mitra ...	Presidency Division.
3	...tai Rajendra Nath Datta Bahadur	Ditto.
4.	Mr. Abdul Majid	Assam.
5	„ Raj Krishna Banarji ...	Burdwan Division.

1913.

Name.	Place of residence.
Mr. Barada Charan Mitra.	
Rai Rajendra Nath Datta Bahadur.	
Mr. Abdul Majid.	
Rai Sarada Prasad Sen Bahadur ...	Dacca Division.
„ Pankaja Kumar Chatarji Bahadur.	Presidency Division.
Mr. Annada Charan Sen ...	Dacca Division.

1914.

Mr. Barada Charan Mitra.
„ Abdul Majid.
Rai Sarada Prasad Sen Bahadur.
„ Pankaja Kumar Chatarji Bahadur.
Mr. Annada Charan Sen.
„ Hari Prasanna Mukharji ... Burdwan Division.

1915.

Mr. Abdul Majid.
Rai Sarada Prasad Sen Bahadur.
„ Pankaja Kumar Chatarji Bahadur.
Mr. Annada Charan Sen.
10. „ Phagabati Charan Mitra ... Burdwan Division.
11. „ Chandra Kumar Chatarji ... Dacca Division.
12. [„ Sarada Prasad Bakshi—Offg.]... Burdwan Division.

By the Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR :—

Appointments of Sub-Deputy Collectors.

III. (*a*) Is it a fact that persons whose educational qualifications are inferior to those of some of the Sub-Deputy Collectors already in service have been appointed to posts of Deputy Collectors?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state why the claims of these Sub-Deputy Collectors have been overlooked?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. KERR was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) It is a fact that some Sub-Deputy Collectors have higher academical qualifications than some Deputy Collectors.

(*b*) The claims of these Sub-Deputy Collectors have not been overlooked. Under rule 4 of the rules for the recruitment of the Provincial Civil Service, ordinarily 35 *per cent.* of the number of appointments made in any one year are filled by the promotion of officers who are already in Government service. The number of Sub-Deputy Collectors who can be promoted to be Deputy Collectors every year is thus limited. In dealing with the promotion of officers already in Government service, more consideration is given to good work than to academical qualifications."

By the Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR :—

Supply of water to the Asansol.

IV. Will the Government be pleased to state whether the scheme for the supply of filtered water to the town of Asansol has now been completed and, if so, when the work is likely to be commenced?

The following reply by the Hon'ble Mr. DE was laid on the table :—

'Two alternative detailed schemes have been submitted to Government and are under consideration. Work cannot be commenced until it has been decided which scheme will be adopted. It is hoped that a beginning will be made during the current financial year."

By the Hon'ble RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR:—

Upkeep of roads within the jurisdiction of the Asansol Local Board.

V. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) what was the annual cost of establishment maintained for the upkeep of the roads within the jurisdiction of the Asansol Local Board, calculated for a period of two years, before the Board was empowered to administer the income which it received from the road cess, and

(*ii*) the yearly establishment costs for the upkeep of the said roads for a similar period after the Board was authorised to spend its revenue independently?

(*b*) Will the Government also be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the names of the roads lying within the jurisdiction of the said Board and the expenditure incurred on each of them for the periods of two years before and after the Board was empowered to administer its own income?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. DE was laid on the table:—

"A statement giving the information asked for by the Hon'ble Member is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the HON'BLE MR. DE *to Question No. V (unstarred) asked by the* HON'BLE RAI NALINAKSHA BASU BAHADUR *at the Council Meeting of the 4th September, 1915.*

DESCRIPTION OF CHARGE.	Cost of establishment maintained for the upkeep of the roads within the jurisdiction of the Asansol Local Board during 1911-12 and 1912-13 before the Board was empowered to administer the income received from the road cess.		Cost* of establishment maintained for the upkeep of the roads within the jurisdiction of the Asansol Local Board during 1913-14 and 1914-15 after the Board was authorised to spend its revenue independently.	
	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Engineering Establishment.	4,012	† 9,097	18,283	19,623

* This includes cost of supervision by District Engineer

† Although the road-cess collected in the Asansol subdivision was handed over to the Asansol Local Board with effect from the 1st April, 1913, the Assistant Engineer and his staff now working under the Asansol Local Board were appointed in November, 1912, in order that the engineering work of the subdivision might be properly organised before the extra funds were handed over. This accounts for the increased charges in 1912-13.

No. in the District Schedule of roads.	NAMES OF ROADS WITHIN THE ASANSOL LOCAL BOARD.	EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON EACH OF THE ROADS LYIN WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE ASANSOL LOCAL BOARD BEFORE THE BOARD WAS EMPOWERED TO ADMINISTER ITS OWN INCOME DURING—						EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON EACH OF THE ROADS LYING WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE ASANSOL LOCAL BOARD AFTER THE BOARD WAS EMPOWERED TO ADMINISTER ITS OWN INCOME DURING—					
		1911-12			1912-13.			1913-14			1914-15		
		Original works.	Repairs.	Total.	Original works.	Repairs.	Total.	Original works.	Repairs.	Total.	Original works.	Repairs.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
9	Panagar-Rambazar Road	...	3,078	3,078	34	2,747	2,771	9,124	2,086	11,210	5,553	576	6,129
10	Panagar-Damodar Road	...	833	833	...	841	841	...	478	478	.	388	388
11	Rajbandh-Gopalpur Road	...	308	308	...	369	369	-	462	462	.	172	172
12	Raghunathchak Ferry Road	...	206	206	...	417	417	...	964	964	...	448	448
13	Raniganj-Mongolpur Road.	...	1,330	1,330	...	1,305	1,305	..	2,129	2,129	.	1,276	1,276
14	Raniganj-Suri Road ...	2,093	7,292	9,386	13,076	7,086	20,162	5,804	8,171	13,975	389	8,528	8,917
16	Sitarampur-Niamutpur Road.	...	810	810	..	890	890		409	409	..	234	234
17	Barakar Feeder Road ...	...	418	418	...	432	432	..	313	313	.	341	341
18	Asansol-Domohani Road	...	6,220	6,220	124	6,450	6,574	4,869	3,794	8,663	17,568	4,611	22,179
19	Raniganj-Domohani Road	616	5,826	6,442	..	6,705	6,705	.	6,766	6,766	699	14,174	14,873
20	Ondal-Bonbahal Road ...	.	3,545	3,545	...	4,498	4,498	.	2,129	2,129	...	2,555	2,555
21	Durgapur-Kuldiah Road	...	591	591	...	595	595	...	890	890	...	791	791
22	Durgapur-Damodar Road	...	817	817	...	438	438	...	268	268	.	194	194
23	Raibandh-Damodar Road	...	1,586	1,586	..	500	500		303	303	...	253	253
47	Radhanagar-Sanctoria Road.	...	2,050	2,050	...	1,162	1,162	...	1,108	1,108	...	5,434	5,434
48	Ovaria Feeder Road ...	...	552	552		558	558	...	294	294		236	236
49	Kalipahari Feeder Road ...	233	689	922	...	292	292	...	1,064	1,064	...	198	198
61	Domohani-Gourandi Road	...	3,715	3,715	...	2,019	2,019	...	925	925	...	1,323	1,323
62	Durgapur-Dakhink hand Road	...	...		...	70	70	...	...		..	...	...
64	Pandaveswar Feeder Road	...	115	115	...	118	118	...	546	546	..	53	53
71	Raniganj Leper Asylum Road	...	189	189	..	497	497	...	602	602	.	232	232
74	Sitarampur-Salanpur Road	6,082	...	6,082	1,510	538	2,048	...	2,085	2,085	919	1,629	2,544
75	Sitarampur-Samdi Road ...	9,535	...	9,535	7,825	677	8,502	498	1,779	2,277	..	2,146	2,146
76	Sitarampur-Kthora Road	3,849	...	3,849	650	...	650	.	466	466	...	728	728
77	Ethora-Dhadka Road ...	9,269	...	9,269	7,830	...	7,830	4,939	..	4,939	9,022	..	9,022
78	Asansol-Dhadka Road .	1,691	...	1,691	1,976	...	1,976	1,263	253	1,516	1,141	977	2,118
..	Ovaria to Pinrapole Road (not included in the schedule of roads).	8	...	8	1,316	..	1,316	...	...	.	...	...	...
..	Panchgachhia-Panuria Road (not included in the schedule of roads)	...	...	...	2,727	...	2,727	8,578	..	8,578	10,279	...	10,279
...	Jamuria-Ninga Road (not included in the schedule of roads).	...	...	..	1,010	...	1,010	2,589	...	2,589	4,668	...	4,668
	VILLAGE ROADS.												
	Thana Asansol.												
1	Domohani Churulia Road	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	130	130	..	...	...
4	Domohani-Lalgani Road	.	...	.		..	.	...	663	663	184	..	184
5	Lalgani-Samdih Road ..	...	.	..	.	..	.	.	184	184	1,422	..	1,422
6	Rupnaranpur-Samdih Road	.	...	..		...	..	590	409	999	3,192	...	3,192
7	Salanpur-Rupnaranpur Road.	...	..		.	...	.	..	300	300	5,223	...	5,523
8	G. T. Road Niamutpur Road.	...	..	..	..	..	.	..	50	50	..	50	50
10	Ethora-Lalgani Road ...	.	..	...	...	..	...	835	285	1,020	100	...	100
13	Asansol-Radhanagar Road	..	.	...	..	..	.	428	..	428	..	...	...
15	Panchgachia-Chichuria Road	...	..	...	...	..	..	..	154	154		..	...
16	Dhadka-Mamara Road ...	...	..	..	1,772	...	1,772	3,449	.	3,449	1,879	...	1,879
17	Dhadka-Chichuria Road	..	.	..	..	.	...	..	98	98	261	...	261
18	Kalipaharia-Damodar Road	..	...	...	...	..	.	1,795	.	1,795	579	..	579
19	Ethora-Gopalpur Road	.	..		.	.	...		234	234	.	...	...
27	Barakar-Rupnaranpur Road.	...	..	...	..			2,874	970	3,844	7,210	.	7,210
35	Samdih-Jamaheria Road	..	...	.	.	...	.	..	88	88	...	...	...
	Thana Raniganj												
1	Jamuria-Nandi Road ..	..		...	...	.	...		209	209	.	.	.
2	Kumarbazar-Nupur Road	..	..	...	...	...	...	.	249	249	..	..	...
3	Baktarnagar-Madanpur Road.	...	.		...	...	...	..	174	174		75	75
4	Ondal-Dakhinkhand Road	...	...	...	...	.	.	...	49	49	...	49	49
5	Khandra-Ukhra Road ...	...	...	...	...	...		...	11	11	..	...	..
6	Raniganj-Baktiarnagar Road.	...	...	.	.	...	..	...	705	705	..	274	274
8	Egra-Sahibganj Road ...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	265	265	1,204	...	1,704
28	Ekra-Jamuria Road ...	...	...		...	.	...	...	636	636	387		387
42	Churulia to River Adjoy Road.	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	86	86	...	...	...
	Thana Kulti.												
2	Malandighi Aiay-Malandighi Kuldea Road	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	913	913	6,757	...	6,757
3	Gopalpur Village Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	75	75	60	40	100
5	Amlaora Babnabera ...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	152	152	.	..	...
8	Shampur Amlajora vid Nawdia.	...	...	...	...	...	...	673	283	956	499	139	638
	Satkahnea Road (not scheduled).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,221	...	1,221
	Nachan-Bhiringi Road (not scheduled).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	905	...	905
	Achra-Panuria Road (not scheduled).	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,503	813	2,316	4,236	...	4,236
	9 Minor works	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,229	...	1,229	...	...	...
	3 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	8
	Village roads (details not available) maintained under the supervision of the District Board.	4,667	6,667	11,224	7,855	7,919	15,774	...	...	...	...	...	...
	GRAND TOTAL ...	37,933	46,827	84,760	47,204	47,532	94,736	51,039	46,648	97,477	85,107	48,220	1,33,327

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

Alleged distress in the district of Bakarganj.

VI. (*a*) Are the Government aware that there is widespread distress amongst the mass of the population in the district of Bakarganj, especially in the Subdivision of Patuakhali and south of the Pirojpur Subdivision ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state what measures they are taking to alleviate this distress ?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state the amounts of loans, if any, sanctioned and advanced to the raiyats ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Government are not aware that there is widespread distress amongst the mass of the population in the district of Bakarganj.

There was a partial failure of the winter rice crop in Bakarganj district in the year 1914-15, and this resulted in some distress during the first half of the year 1915, the most affected areas being the Sundarbans in Patuakhali and Pirojpur Subdivisions, and portions of thanas Mirzaganj and Bakarganj. A good crop of autumn rice is being harvested and the distress, which was at no time very severe, is now nearly over.

(*b*) While distress was prevalent, Government were informed of the situation and the following measures were taken to alleviate the distress :—

(1) Government sanctioned the suspension of Rs. 1,70,000 of rent in the areas under direct Government management;

(2) agricultural loans were distributed;

(3) the Bakarganj District Board took up special work in the affected area with a view to providing employment; and

(4) concessions in the shape of free passes for wood-cutting were granted to distressed raiyats in the Sundarbans Colonization area, and Rangoon rice was distributed as advances.

(*c*) Rupees 43,000 was sanctioned by Government for agricultural loans and Rs. 39,000 was distributed."

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

Filling-up of the vacancies in the posts of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions

VII. (*a*) Is it a fact that, of the four Deputy Sanitary Commissionerships in Bengal, two posts, namely, those of the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions, have remained vacant since the departure of the permanent incumbents of those posts for the front ?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the question of allotting the duties of the vacant posts to the two Deputy Sanitary Commissioners of the Dacca and Rajshahi Divisions ?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. DE was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Government are considering the question of appointing temporary officers as Deputy Sanitary Commissioners of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions. It is not considered possible to allot the duties of these posts to the Deputy Sanitary Commissioners of Dacca and Rajshahi Divisions."

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

Splitting up of the jurisdiction of the Muhammadan Marriage Registrar of Dacca.

VIII. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any note from the Hon'ble Mr. A. K. Gaznavi regarding the advisability of dividing the present jurisdiction of the Muhammadan Marriage Registrar of Dacca into three separate and independent charges ?

(*b*) If so, what action (if any) have Government taken in the matter ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY was laid on the table :—

"Government have received no note from the Hon'ble Mr. A. K. Gaznavi regarding the advisability of dividing the present jurisdiction of the Muhammadan Marriage Registrar of Dacca into three separate and independent charges. At a meeting of the Permanent Committee for the supervision of Muhammadan Marriage Registrars and Kazis in Bengal, held in Calcutta on the 8th April, 1914, a proposal to divide the present jurisdiction of the Marriage Registrar of Dacca and to open an additional office at Keraniganj with jurisdiction over thana Keraniganj was approved. The District Registrar did not support the proposal and the question was again considered at a meeting of the Permanent Committee held at Dacca on the 18th August, 1915, and it was resolved that no steps should be taken for dividing the jurisdiction of the present Marriage Registrar."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

IX. (*a*) Are the Government aware that, from want of definite instructions, the District Boards find it difficult to spend the amount derived from the Public Works Cess in improving the supply of good drinking water in villages, and for other sanitary improvements?

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(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of issuing instructions to all District Boards as to how the amount derived from Public Works Cess should be spent?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. DE was laid on the table :—

(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) District Boards have been informed that Government consider it a matter of importance that they should set apart a substantial sum from their increased resources for the sanitation of villages and small towns, for the improvement of water-supply and for anti-malarial measures. A copy of the Circular (No. 388-92 M., dated the 7th February, 1914) is laid on the table."

No. 388-92 M., dated Calcutta, the 7th February, 1914.

From—THE HON'BLE MR. H. F. SAMMAN, I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department,

To—The Commissioners of the Dacca, Rajshahi, Chittagong, Presidency and Burdwan Divisions.

I AM directed to refer to Government Order No. 980 T.—M., dated the 3rd November, 1913, addressed to the Accountant-General, Bengal, copy of which was forwarded to you with Memorandum No. 981—85 M., dated the 3rd November 1913. It was stated therein that Government had decided to surrender the Public Works cess to District Boards unconditionally for the present year. In coming to this decision the Governor in Council was influenced by the consideration that District Boards are in an exceptional position to gauge local requirements, and to determine accordingly to what specific purpose this addition to their income can most profitably be devoted. While leaving the District Boards a free hand in the expenditure of this income for the current year, His Excellency in Council desires to impress upon them the importance of setting apart a substantial sum for the sanitation of villages and small towns, for the improvement of water-supply and for anti-malarial measures.

2. Instructions have already issued regarding the measures to be taken for providing a pure water-supply in the interior. The question to which I am to invite special attention at the present time is the prevention of malaria. The value of quinine as a remedy for this disease has been abundantly proved, but the efficacy of the drug is largely dependent on the adequacy of the quantities in which it is administered. The attention of Government has been directed to the fact that the average quantity of quinine administered to each patient in District Board dispensaries falls far short of the minimum necessary for effective treatment. The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals has now issued instructions to all Civil Surgeons to see that in future adequate quantities of quinine are given in all cases of malaria. Compliance with these instructions will involve considerable additional expenditure. This is a legitimate charge upon District Boards and should be met without difficulty out of their increased resources. The wide prevalence of malaria in this Presidency and its baneful effects on the people have long been recognised, and the importance of taking adequate measures for the prevention and cure of this disease cannot be overestimated. The Governor in Council trusts that District

Boards will realize the pressing necessity of bringing within the reach of the people a mode of treatment pronounced to be effective after continued research by competent persons.

3. I am to request that you will communicate the wishes of Government in this matter to all District Boards within your division. A copy of the Circular No. 31, dated 20th August 1913, issued by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals to all Civil Surgeons, is appended.

Circular No. 31, dated Calcutta, the 20th August, 1913.

From—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. R. EDWARDS, C.M.G., M.D., I.M.S., Offg. Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal,

To—All Civil Surgeons.

THE Malaria Committee have brought to the notice of Government that, according to the result of careful investigations made by the two Malaria Research Officers employed in this province, the amount of quinine given to patients who apply for treatment at Government dispensaries is entirely inadequate to cure even mild cases of malarial fever. This statement is supported by figures for various districts.

2. The Committee also state that the failure of the quinine given to relieve patients of their fever symptoms is one of the main reasons why quinine is looked upon with such disfavour by the people generally, and this is borne out by the fact that patent medicines, which contain large doses of quinine and are sold at a much higher price, find a ready market. This attitude of the public in regard to the efficacy of quinine is a great drawback to attempts to improve the general health of certain tracts of the country, and in the opinion of Government steps should be taken to remove it at once.

3. Although there are many problems which have yet to be decided on the subject of the treatment of malaria with quinine, there can be no doubt whatever that no good results are likely to be obtained by the administration of inadequate doses of the drug. Even mild cases require about 80 grains and more malignant cases considerably larger quantities before recovery can be expected. While Government have no wish to interfere with the treatment of patients by medical officers, they desire it to be distinctly understood that all patients suffering from simple uncomplicated malaria should receive an adequate amount of quinine sufficient to cure them of the malady. In their case the amount of quinine to be given should ordinarily be never less than 80 grains or one "treatment" of quinine. The "treatments" which consist of 20 tabloids each of 4 grains in test tubes will be supplied to dispensaries. These tubes should under no consideration be opened, and at least a whole test tube should be given to each patient who requires treatment by quinine. In cases of children 80 grains of quinine are unnecessary, but even in these cases a full "treatment" should be given with suitable instructions and the parents may be allowed to retain what is not required of the "treatment" for future use. I am to add that these instructions do not in any way interfere with the discretion of the medical officers to make use of a diaphoretic or a saline purgative as well as quinine. Separate Register should be kept for malarial cases.

By the Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE :—

Teaching of the vernacular in European Schools for girls.

X. (*a*) In view of paragraph 18 of the Resolution on Indian Educational Policy issued by the Governor General of India in Council on the 21st February, 1913, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of making it possible for the girls of the domiciled community to serve in Indian vernacular girls' schools in Bengal, provided they are conversant with the vernaculars of the country?

(*b*) Will the Government also be pleased to state—

(*i*) which European schools for girls in Bengal provide instruction in a vernacular; and

(*ii*) how many girls are studying the vernaculars in such schools?

(*c*) Are the Government considering the desirability of taking such steps as may be necessary to raise the standard of the teaching of the vernaculars in European schools for girls in this Presidency?

The following reply by the Hon'ble MR. DE was laid on the table :—

(*a*) "Government have not considered the desirability of making it possible for the girls of the domiciled community to serve in Indian vernacular girls' schools in Bengal. The supply of teachers for European schools is inadequate.

(*b*) A statement giving the desired information is laid on the table.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the HON'BLE MR. DE *to Question No. X (unstarred) asked by the* HON'BLE MR. W. T. GRICE *at the Council Meeting of the 4th September, 1915, showing the list of Schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians which provide instruction for girls in an Indian Vernacular according to Manager's returns for 1914-15.*

	School.	Class of school.	Grade.	Number of girls taught an Indian vernacular language.
1.	Welland Memorial School, Calcutta.	Mixed ...	Secondary ...	20
2.	St. Andrew's Colonial Homes, Kalimpong.	Do. ...	Higher Elementary.	56
3.	B.-N. Railway European School, Khargpur.	Do. ...	Ditto ...	10
4.	St. James's Parochial School, Calcutta.	Do.	Elementary ...	2
5.	European Day School, Lillooah.	Do. ...	Ditto ...	6

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 3 and 4.

THE BENGAL DECENTRALIZATION BILL, 1915.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell presented the report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Decentralization Bill, 1915, and moved that the said report be taken into consideration.

He said :—

"My Lord,

I present the report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Decentralization Bill, 1915. The House will be glad to see that our report is entirely unanimous. When I introduced this Bill at Dacca there were indications that the clauses relating to the Bengal Municipal Act would be somewhat contentious. In Select Committee we followed the wise adage that when you meet a difficulty you should look it straight in the face, and then pass on. In other words, we decided that, as the Bengal Municipal Act is shortly to come up for general revision, it would be better to postpone the

consideration of these amendments until that general revision is undertaken. We took the same line regarding certain amendments of the Partition Act, that standing dish of 'Commissioners' Conferences'.

As I foreshadowed at Dacca, we have inserted some amendments of the Cess Act, which were not in the original Bill. These are of a non-contentious nature.

"Lastly, I should explain, in accordance with a promise given in Select Committee, that I have re-examined the item which relates to the confirmation, under section 10 of Bengal Regulation VII of 1822, of settlements of land revenue. I find that the case stands as I thought. It has always been the practice that settlements of land revenue should be confirmed by a higher or lower authority according to the amount of land revenue concerned. The existing rule is embodied in paragraph 707 of the Settlement Manual. The object of the present amendment is to enable Government to replace a non-statutory by a statutory rule. No new question of principle is involved. I again congratulate the House on the fact that our report is unanimous."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved that the Bill be passed.

He said :—

"As no amendments have been moved, I beg to move that the Bill as amended by the Select Committee be passed."

The motion was put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 5.

THE BENGAL SMOKE-NUISANCES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1915.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Bengal Smoke-nuisances Act, 1905.

He said :—

"My Lord,

I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Bengal Smoke-nuisances Act, 1905.

To those who are condemned to live in towns there is perhaps no greater misfortune than the absence of the pure air of the country. The ruler who does something to purify the air of a great city is a real benefactor of his subjects. The city of Calcutta, the second city of the Empire, is under many obligations to Lord Curzon; but one of the greatest of these obligations lies in the fact that Lord Curzon took real steps to purify our air. It is to him that we owe the establishment of the Bengal Smoke-nuisances Commission, constituted under the Act of 1905. That Commission has been working for 10 years and has a record of good work of which any commission might be proud. But these ten years have shown us that the Act is defective in several particulars. The present Bill is a practical attempt to remove these defects. The Bill is accompanied by a full statement of the 'Objects and Reasons' of all our amendments. I need not go over them in detail, but I will briefly draw attention to a few of the main points.

In the first place, the word 'furnace' is so defined in the present Act that hotels, clubs and similar institutions are free from the attentions of the Commission. This is obviously a serious defect. We therefore propose, following the precedent of Bombay, to bring these institutions under the Act while still exempting fireplaces used in private houses for *bonâ-fide* domestic purposes.

Mr. Beatson Bell.

In the next place, we propose to empower the Commission to approve the plans of any 'furnace, flue or chimney' before it is erected or altered. It is no real kindness to allow a man or a company to erect a furnace of defective construction and then fine him because the furnace is a public nuisance. It is better for all concerned that the defect should be pointed out at the earliest possible stage. Prevention is better than cure, and very much better than the Police Court.

Another point in which the Act has been found to be defective relates to brick kilns and lime kilns. The Commission has already power to regulate their erection, but it has no power to regulate the use of kilns erected before the Act came into force. This defect we propose to remedy by the insertion of the word 'use' in section 6.

We also ask for increased powers in the matter of coke-making in open places, and we propose to declare (which seems to be quite reasonable) that the Inspectors who work under the Act are 'public servants' vested with the privileges and liable to the duties which attach to such servants.

I have left to the end the one clause which may be, but which I trust will not be, controversial—namely, the clause which deals with the present 'close time' for ocean-going steamers. Everyone who walks along the Strand Road must have been struck by the volume of smoke which is often pouring from the funnels of steamers about to leave the port. As the law now stands, ocean going steamers are altogether exempted from the operation of the Act for a period (to be fixed by Government) prior to their leaving the port. This period has actually been fixed at two hours. It has been found by careful observations that although the process of stoking preparatory to departure lasts about 24 hours it is during the two hours of statutory 'close time' that the pollution of the atmosphere chiefly occurs. We have ascertained that in no port in Great Britain do steamers enjoy any statutory 'close time'. For the entire period of their preparatory stoking they are liable to the ordinary law. As a result, the stokers practise careful and scientific stoking during the whole period. It is doubtless due to this fact that the liners which ply between Calcutta and Great Britain are seldom among the offenders in Calcutta. The stokers of these steamers have learned to be careful while in Great Britain, and in spite of the fact that they have a 'close time' in Calcutta they seldom take advantage of the fact. For this, they deserve and should receive the thanks of the citizens of Calcutta. Other ocean-going steamers have, I regret to say, been less considerate. For several years past the matter has attracted the anxious attention of the Smoke Commission. It was proposed in 1912 to amend the law by withdrawing the 'close time.' As a result the stokers became more careful and the percentage of bad offenders—those emitting what is technically known as 'scale 6 smoke'—dropped to 5 per cent. We were in hopes that legislation would not be necessary, but the fear of an amendment in the law apparently passed away and since then things have gone from bad to worse. The table of bad offenders is as follows :—

June, 1912	...	...	...	5·0	per cent.
September, 1913	...	...	...	5·1	,,
March, 1914	...	...	...	10·3	,,
September, 1914	...	...	...	26·64	,,
March, 1915	...	...	...	20·1	,,
September, 1915	...	...	...	22·27	,,

If we take the average emission in minutes per hour of the three densest scales of smoke we find similar results :—

June, 1912	...	...	...	·68	minutes	per hour.
September, 1913	...	...	...	1·47	,,	,,
March, 1914	...	...	...	1·52	,,	,,
September, 1914	...	...	...	2·85	,,	,,
March, 1915	...	...	...	2·62	,,	,,
September, 1915	...	...	...	3·18	,,	,,

Mr. Beatson Bell; the President.

I shall not weary the House with further statistics, which are necessarily of a technical and smoky character. The figures which I have already quoted will show that we have not acted in a hurry. After anxious consideration we have come to the conclusion that the 'close time' should be withdrawn and that steamers should be governed by the ordinary law during the two hours in question. That is to say, they will be governed by rules framed under the Act just as factories are governed all the day, and just as steamers are now governed at all times with the exception of these two hours. We can assure the steamer companies that the rules which we propose to frame will not be harsh or unreasonable and they will be framed after consultation with the companies concerned. We are aware that in the course of the preliminary correspondence the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has opposed this amendment and has urged the retention of the 'close time.' This attitude of the Chamber is somewhat remarkable. They have two representatives on the Smoke Commission. These representatives have joined with the other members of the Commission in urging Government to abolish the 'close time', and yet the Chamber has taken the opposite view. Be this as it may, we know that the purity of the air of Calcutta is as dear to the members of the Chamber as to any other citizens of Calcutta and we appeal to them in all confidence to assist us in doing whatever is right and reasonable. I do not yet ask that this Bill should be sent to a Select Committee. It is desirable that all public bodies who are interested, including of course the Chamber of Commerce, should see the Bill in its final form and should consider it very carefully. The Bill will therefore be circulated for opinion and at a future meeting of the Council I shall ask that it be referred to a Select Committee."

The motion was put and agreed to.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 6, 7 AND 8.

RESOLUTIONS

(*under the Rules for the discussion of matters of general public interest*).

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ was to have moved the following resolutions :—

1. "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken to provide special travelling allowance rates for district sub-registrars and district joint sub-registrars in the districts of Bakarganj, Faridpur, Noakhali and Chittagong."

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken to provide floating dispensaries for the Eastern Bengal districts of the Presidency."

"This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that all existing circulars, relating to the extension of the appointments of Muhammadans in certain branches of the public service, be made applicable to all departments in the public service; and that all heads of departments be directed to submit quarterly reports on the working of such circulars, and that copies of such reports be circulated to all recognised Anjumans and Muhammadan public bodies."

HIS EXCELLENCY, THE PRESIDENT, said :—

"Under Rule 10 of Bengal Legislative (Resolution) Rules, 1912, and at the request of the Hon'ble mover, I postpone the moving of items Nos. 6, 7 and 8 in the List of Business to a later meeting of the Council."

The discussion of the Resolutions was accordingly postponed.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

HIS EXCELLENCY, THE PRESIDENT, said :—

"Our labours are now ended and in a few moments it will be my duty to close this session by adjourning the Council.

It has been the custom for the President to say a few words before declaring that the Council stand adjourned at the end of the September session. I do not propose to depart from the custom, but my words will be very few.

We have—since our last meeting—lost by death one of our members—the Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narayan Roy—who died on the 26th August, exactly a year after the day—August 26th, 1914, when he was elected to represent the Corporation of Calcutta in the Council. I feel sure I am doing what you would like me to do when I say we mourn his loss.

A year ago I referred particularly to the war and I shall do so again now. We understand better now than we did then, what war means for us, and for the Empire, and we probably look at things in a truer proportion. Our general feeling is, I fancy, that while a year ago we hoped that we had every ground for confidence—we even believed we had—it was a belief that was based rather on faith than on knowledge; but now we know from experience that we have a right to be confident.

We realise now that the strength of the British Empire, whether by land, or by sea—or in the air—has not failed us. We may, some of us, have looked a year ago for some striking display of naval force. Some of us may even be disappointed that from lack of opportunity there has not been such a display—but I think very few of us realised then how rapidly and completely the British Navy would control the whole of the seas and secure that the commerce of this Empire should nowhere be destroyed. No part of the Empire has gained more by this than Calcutta. The trade of Calcutta has been maintained as few could have expected. As for our land forces—no one can deny that they have far exceeded anything we looked for 12 months ago: we here in India did not then know that India would play the part she has done—a part of which we are so proud.

There have been scares, there have been alarmist rumours during the last 12 months. These have done some harm—we may not be quite free of them yet—but some of us are surer than we were then, that these rumours are groundless and do most harm to those who believe them. You have all, I hope, done your bŏst to prevent the spread of such rumours, and for that you deserve thanks. When I turn to things of which we have more personal knowledge, I shall only refer to one—the distress at present in some parts of the Presidency due to the floods. I hope you are all convinced that Government realise the situation and realise their duty.

My colleague, the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell, said to-day that in the treatment of smoke-nuisance no one could claim that the Government of Bengal have moved with undue haste. I fear some of you who are quick thinkers are not satisfied that Government in some other matters act as rapidly as you would like. But I hope you feel that Government will act, and act according to their knowledge as soon as they are convinced of the need for action. There has been need here, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking those who, in their private capacity, have co-operated with Government in bringing much needed relief to those who are suffering. I thank both those who have given help in the form of service and those who have given it in the form of money: and I would take this opportunity of letting it be known that His Excellency the Viceroy has kindly promised Rs. 1,000 to be used in the relief of this distress. For that I am sure not only will the sufferers themselves be grateful to His Excellency, but all those who sympathise with them and who wish well to Bengal."

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was then adjourned *sine die*.

A. M. HUTCHISON,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal and
Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council.

CALCUTTA ;
The 11th September, 1915.

B. S. Press—23-9-1915—1669J—350—S. C. R.

bstract of the Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, 1892, and 1909, and the Government of India Act, 1912.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in Government House on Monday, the 13th December, 1915, at 11 A.M.

Present :

His Excelleney the Right Hon'ble THOMAS DAVID, BARON CARMICHAEL OF SKIRLING, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G., *Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, presiding.*

The Hon'ble MR. P. C. LYON, C.S.I., *Vice-President.*

The Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA.

The Hon'ble MR. N. D. BEATSON BELL, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble COL. W. R. EDWARDS, C.B., C.M.G.

The Hon'ble MR. F. J. MONAHAN.

The Hon'ble MR. J. LANG.

The Hon'ble MR. J. H. KERR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. K. C. DE, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. J. DONALD.

The Hon'ble MR. L. BIRLEY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. H. H. GREEN.

The Hon'ble MR. C. H. BOMPAS.

The Hon'ble MR. B. C. MITRA.

The Hon'ble MR. W. W. HORNELL.

The Hon'ble MR. C. F. PAYNE.

The Hon'ble MR. E. B. H. PANTON.

The Hon'ble RAI PRIYA NATH MUKHARJI BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR H. J. HILARY.

The Hon'ble the NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., AMIR-UL-OMRAH.

The Hon'ble SIR S. P. SINHA, KT.

The Hon'ble DR. NILKATAN SARKAR.

The Hon'ble RAJA HRISHIKESH LAHA, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. R. GLEN.

The Hon'ble SIR BIJAY CHAND MAHTAB, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.O.M., Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan.

The Hon'ble DR. DEBA PRASAD SARBADHIKARI, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble BABU RAMTARAN BANERJI.

Oath or affirmation of Allegiance: Questions and Answers.

The Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MR. E. H. BRAY.

The Hon'ble MR. A. BIRKMYRE.

The Hon'ble MR. W. T. GRICE.

The Hon'ble MR. G. A. BAYLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. GOLAM HOSSEIN CASSIM ARIFF.

The Hon'ble MAULVI MAZHARUL ANWAR CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI MUSHARRAF HUSSAI

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ.

The Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDAR CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble MAHARAJA RANAJIT SINHA of Nashipur.

The Hon'ble RAJA MAHENDRA RANJAN RAY CHAUDHURI.

The Hon'ble RAI PRASANNA KUMAR RAY BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY.

The Hon'ble BABU MAHENDRA NATH RAY, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble RAI HARI MOHAN CHANDRA BAHADUR.

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN.

The Hon'ble BABU UPENDRA LAL RAY.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 1.

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Hon'ble Mr. Green, the Hon'ble Mr. Panton and the Hon'ble Babu Ramtaran Banerji made an oath or affirmation of their allegiance to the Crown.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 2.

STARRED QUESTIONS

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR:—

Statement of confidence between police and the

*1. Will the Government be pleased to state what measures have been taken, or are being taken, with a view to establish relations of greater confidence and trust between the police and the people and generally to bring about a closer touch between them?

[*Mr. Kerr; Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur.*]

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR replied :—

The Hon'ble Member is referred to the last report (of the year 1914) on the Administration of the Police Department*, and to the Government Resolution † on the report, copies of which are laid on the table. The matter has also been investigated by Mr. Gourlay, who, as the Hon'ble Member is aware, was lately placed on special duty to inquire into various questions connected with the police administration. It is expected that Mr. Gourlay's report will be submitted shortly, and the whole question will then be considered further by Government.

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Arrange police s of traffi northern Calcutta.

* 2. (*a*) Are the Government aware that there is no proper police supervision of the traffic in the area north of Bowbazar Street and Lall Bazar Street, especially in the numerous thoroughfares of the Indian commercial area in that part of the city?

(*b*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of instructing the Commissioner of Police to take the necessary steps to regulate this traffic?

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR replied :—

"(*a*) Government have received no complaints on the subject.

(*b*) The question of the regulation of traffic in the north of Calcutta and especially in the narrow thoroughfares of the Commercial area has been under the consideration of the Commissioner of Police and the Chairman of the Corporation for some time, and improvements are being introduced as funds and staff become available. At present in this area 25 beats and crossings are manned by Sergeants and 67 by Traffic constables."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Protec people o from att armed da

* 3. Will the Government be pleased to state what special steps they have taken or are taking to protect the life and property of the people of Calcutta and its suburbs from the attacks of armed dacoits?

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR replied :—

"The Commissioner of Police is taking certain measures which he hopes may prove adequate to cope with the crimes of the nature of those to which the Hon'ble Member refers. Armed patrols are being sent round the more important thoroughfares, and armed men in motor-cars patrol various quarters of the city. Government have requested the Commissioner of Police to give facilities to merchants or others desirous of employing their own armed guards. The work of such guards will be co-ordinated as far as possible with that of the regular force, and instructions will be issued as to the action to be taken in case of emergency.

The Commissioner of Police has, for some time past, contemplated the erection in different quarters of the town of a large number of alarm-posts in order to facilitate the prompt receipt by the police of information as to the commission of crimes. These posts will be in direct telephonic communication with a central station, and the Commissioner of Police proposes that more than 100 of them should be erected immediately. Each post will be in charge of a constable on fixed point duty, but they will be so constructed that in the absence of a constable it will be possible for any member of the public to give the alarm. This project will be carried out at once.

Arrangements will be made so that policemen in motor-cars may be despatched at once from the central station to any points which may be thought advisable immediately after the receipt of an alarm; and the alarm will be repeated from the central station to all the other posts in the town, so

*Copies of this Report are available in the Bengal Secretariat Book Depôt.
† Political Department's Resolution No. 11870 P., dated the 6th October, 1915.

[*Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur; Mr. De.*]

that the whole police force on beat duty may be informed of the commission of a crime within a few minutes after receipt of information at the central station.

Drop-gates will be erected at various points, by means of which it will be possible to stop traffic whenever it may be thought necessary.

Other measures are under consideration or are already determined upon, but the Hon'ble Member will easily understand that it is probably not in the public interest to make all details known. He may, however, rest assured that Government are fully alive to the importance of the matter, and will welcome and carefully consider all suggestions which may be made to the Commissioner of Police or the Chief Secretary."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Obstruction of [illegible]lc in Calcutta [illegible]irms and com[illegible]ies who have power to lay [illegible]erground pipes [illegible] cables.

* 4. (*a*) Are the Government aware that several of the firms and companies in Calcutta, who have the power to lay underground pipes and cables, do so without the sanction of the Corporation?

(*b*) Are the Government also aware that (with the exception of the Bengal Telephone Company) this privilege is enjoyed by these people without the payment of any fee or rent?

(*c*) Are the Government also aware that the work of laying down these underground pipes and cables is frequently delayed and is also carried out regardless of obstruction to traffic?

(*d*) Are the Government also aware that it often happens that roads, after they have been thoroughly repaired by the Corporation, are again cut up by these people and the surface of the roads thereafter not satisfactorily restored?

(*e*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps (if any) they are taking to bring such firms and companies under the control of the local authorities?

The Hon'ble MR. DE replied :—

"(*a*) Two companies have statutory powers of opening the public streets in Calcutta to lay underground pipes and cables without the sanction of the Corporation. A third company enjoys these powers except in the case of new cables. But in all cases notice is required to be given except in cases of urgency.

(*b*) No fee is payable by companies which possess these powers. The Bengal Telephone Company does not possess them.

(*c*) Government are aware that in some cases there has been delay, but are advised that the work is not carried out regardless of obstruction to traffic.

(*d*) Roads which have recently been repaired by the Corporation have in some cases been cut up by public companies for pipe or cable laying and restoration has not always been thoroughly satisfactory. Conferences have been arranged recently by the Chairman of the Corporation with the companies, with a view to road repairs being carried out after, and not before, the laying of pipes and cables.

(*e*) Government do not propose taking any action in the matter."

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Tram-track [illegible] by the [illegible] Tramway

* 5. (*a*) Are the Government aware that the Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta is in the receipt of frequent complaints from the public of Calcutta on account of the inconvenience caused to them by the unsatisfactory and dilatory methods employed by the Calcutta Tramway Company, Limited, in connection with their tram-track repairs?

[*Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur; Mr. De; Chaudhuri Mahammad Ismail Khan; Mr. Donald; Babu Surendra Nath Ray.*]

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR—*concld.*

(*b*) Are the Government also aware that it is the practice of the said Company to deposit repair materials along the roads for interminable periods and that the Corporation's request for night and day labour by the said Company on their repairs was refused by them?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they are taking in the matter?

The Hon'ble MR. DE replied :—

"(*a*) Complaints of this nature have been received by the Chairman of the Corporation from members of the General Committee, but none recently from the general public.

(*b*) Government are aware that there is a certain amount of inconvenience indissociable from the repair of tram-lines in crowded thoroughfares, but are advised that the Tramways Company are at present proceeding with all reasonable diligence. The Tramways Company expressed their inability to arrange for night labour.

(*c*) Government do not propose to take any action in the matter."

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

Alleged ances of th assistants Bengal Sec

*6. (*a*) Are the Government aware of the grievances under which the junior assistants of the Bengal Secretariat are alleged to be suffering at present in regard to their promotion to the higher grades?

(*b*) If so, what steps (if any) are the Government taking to remedy these grievances?

The Hon'ble MR. DONALD replied :—

"In 1910 the clerical staff of the Bengal Secretariat was reorganised, a Lower Division and an Upper Division being constituted. In December, 1913, the assistants in the Lower Division submitted a memorial to Government, complaining of their prospects and position. The memorial was carefully considered by Government and it was found that the memorialists had a genuine grievance. Between 1910 and 1913 promotions from the Lower to the Upper Division had been less frequent than had been contemplated in the sanctioned scheme. Orders were passed by Government with a view to a removal of this grievance. These orders are now being carried out."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

Alleged in the dis Bankura.

*7. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken to relieve the distress caused by famine in the district of Bankura?

(*b*) Is it a fact that a few persons have died of starvation in village Paktore, within the jurisdiction of the Gangajalghati police-station, and in Hatgram, within the jurisdiction of the Indpur police-station, and also in other places?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that the distress is very acute and is very general in the district; and, if so, are they considering the desirability of notifying a state of famine in the district and of adopting all such measures as are necessary to cope with the situation?

(*d*) What amounts (if any) have been sanctioned by Government for relief work, *taccavi* loans and gratuitous relief in the district?

(*e*) Is it a fact that the District Board of Bankura is spending Rs. 35 per week for gratuitous relief in each union, consisting of about 35 villages?

[*Mr. Birley; Nawab Saiyid Hossam Haider Chaudhuri; Mr. Kerr.*]

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

"(*a*) The measures undertaken for the relief of distress in the district of Bankura are—

(*1*) the distribution of loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act;

(*2*) the grant of gratuitous relief,

(*3*) the opening of relief works by the District Board; and

(*4*) the advance of money to weavers for the purchase of thread, and to women for paddy husking

(*b*) The District Magistrate reports that no death from starvation has occurred in village Paktore, but that three deaths which have occurred in this village since September were all from natural causes.

No death from starvation in Hatgram village or elsewhere has been reported. In October a beggar from another village came to Hatgram and was fed there and died suddenly, on inquiry his death was attributed to natural causes and it was found that he had had food shortly before he arrived at Hatgram

(*c*) Government are aware that considerable and widespread distress prevails in the district of Bankura. Government have adopted such measures as are necessary to meet the situation. Government do not propose to declare a state of famine in the district, this decision does not in any way limit the scope of the measures taken for the relief of distress.

(*d*) Government have sanctioned Rs 3,75,000 for agricultural and land improvement loans, Rs 50,000 for gratuitous relief, and Rs 1,00,000 for relief works in Bankura district

(*e*) No. The amounts distributed weekly in each Union vary according to the number of people requiring relief."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Facilities to Muhammadan prisoners for religious observances.

*8. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any facility afforded to Muhammadan prisoners to say their daily prayers in jails, and also their prayers on the occasions of the *Eds*?

(*b*) If not, are the Government considering the desirability of making arrangements for this?

The Hon'ble MR. KERR replied :—

"Facilities are given to the Muhammadan prisoners in all jails to say their daily prayers at convenient times. No general demand has arisen for special opportunities for prayers on the occasion of the *Eds*. In the Alipore Jail, work is stopped half an hour before the usual time on *Id* days and the Muhammadan prisoners are permitted to assemble for prayer in a separate enclosure. The Inspector General of Prisons will be instructed to make similar arrangements in other jails if the prisoners desire it."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR :—

Introduction and development of new and existing industries in the Presidency.

*9. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether an Advisory Board has been formed to advise the Local Government with regard to the introduction of new industries, or for the development of the existing industries, in this Presidency?

(*b*) If not, are the Government taking any steps in this direction?

[*Mr. Donald; Nawab Saiyid Hossain Haider Chaudhuri; Mr. De; Babu S. N. Banerji.*]

The Hon'ble MR. DONALD replied:—

"(*a*) No Advisory Board has been formed.

(*b*) Government do not propose taking into consideration the question of the formation of an Advisory Board until a Director of Industries has been appointed for the Presidency."

By the Hon'ble NAWAB SAIYID HOSSAM HAIDER CHAUDHURI, KHAN BAHADUR:—

*10. (*a*) Are the Government considering the desirability of extending the powers of the Local Boards? Ex powe Boar

(*b*) If so, on what lines is it proposed that such extension should take place?

The Hon'ble MR. DE replied:—

"At present there are no proposals before the Government for extending the powers of the Local Boards."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI:—

*11. Will the Government be pleased to state what action, if any, they have taken to give effect to the Resolution on Mr. Swan's report on indigenous industries, which the Government accepted at the meeting of the Council held at Dacca in July this year? Ind dust

The Hon'ble MR. DONALD replied:—

"In accepting on behalf of Government the Resolution on Mr. Swan's Report on Indigenous Industries moved by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji at the meeting of Council, held on the 26th July last, the Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell explained that an essential measure in the development of local industries was the appointment of a Director of Industries, and he informed the Council that the Government of India had been addressed with regard to the appointment of such an officer. The orders of the Government of India are still awaited.

The attention of all Departments has, as promised, been drawn to the rules regarding the purchase of goods in India by the departments of Government.

A proposal for a home industries exhibition has been under consideration, but for unavoidable reasons has been deferred. The Commercial Museum established by the Government of India, which consists largely of samples of Indian manufactures will, however, be open to the public early next year."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI:—

*12. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to give this Council full information regarding the distress prevailing in the district of Bankura with special reference to the following points, namely:— Affa on t Bank

(*i*) the causes of the distress;

(*ii*) the extent of the area affected and the number and classes of persons affected;

(*iii*) the measures for relief adopted by the Government and by local and public bodies;

(*iv*) the amount of money sanctioned and distributed by Government for loans and charitable relief;

(*v*) the prospect of the next winter and *rabi* crops in the area affected;

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Birley.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI—*concld.*

(*vi*) the nature of test works opened and the number of persons employed thereon and their average daily wages;

(*vii*) the number of persons in receipt of charitable relief in the said area?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of extending the provisions of the Famine Code to the district of Bankura?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied:—

"(*a*) (*i*) The distress in Bankura district is due to short and ill distributed rainfall in June, July and August, resulting in damage to the winter rice crop and making transplantation impossible over a large area.

(*ii*) The affected area comprises 1,155 square miles out of the total area of Bankura district, which is 2,621 square miles. The population affected is estimated at 502,837, the total population of the district being 1,138,670. The classes principally feeling distress are cultivators, weavers, agricultural labourers and beggars. Small tenure holders are also affected.

(*iii*) The measures for relief adopted by Government are

(*1*) the distribution of loans under the Agriculturists' and Land Improvement Loans Acts,

(*2*) the grant of gratuitous relief,

(*3*) the allotment of special grants to the District Board, and

(*4*) the supply of thread to weavers.

The District Board has opened 36 relief works and has advanced money to women for husking paddy.

The Bankura College, the Bengal Social League, the Sadharan Brahma Samaj and the Ramkrishna Mission are distributing alms and doles of rice.

(*iv*) Government have sanctioned Rs. 3,75,000 for loans and Rs. 50,000 for gratuitous relief. Up to 30th November, 1915, Rs. 2,86,716 had been distributed as loans and Rs. 43,435 as gratuitous relief.

(*v*) The outturn of the winter rice crop in the thanas affected is expected to vary from 2 to 8 annas of a normal crop. *Rabi* crops are normally grown on about 10 *per cent.* of the cultivated area, but this area has been somewhat extended this year and an outturn of from 8 to 12 annas is expected.

(*vi*) The relief works consist of

(*1*) construction of new roads,

(*2*) repair of existing roads,

(*3*) collection of road metal,

(*4*) re-excavation of tanks,

(*5*) construction of new *bunds*, and

(*6*) re-excavation of silted up channels.

The number of persons employed daily at the end of November was 2,766, and the average daily wage is 2 annas 5 pies.

(*vii*) The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief at the end of November was 7,433. In addition, 1,800 weavers are in receipt of relief.

(*b*) Government do not propose to declare a state of famine in the district; this decision does not in any way limit the scope of the measures taken for the relief of distress."

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Birley.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Conditi flooded di Tippera khali.

*13. Will the Government be pleased to state the present condition of the districts of Tippera and Noakhali which have recently been affected by floods?

The Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY replied :—

TIPPERA.

Brahmanbaria Subdivision.

"In 260 square miles scattered over the subdivision there is no winter rice crop; attempts are being made to grow *rabi* crops in this area and loans have been advanced for the purchase of seed. Two lakhs have been kept in hand for loans to be advanced in February when the *Borsal* paddy, which is the staple crop of the subdivision, is to be sown. Provision has been made for relief works including a Government grant of Rs. 85,000 for excavating tanks. In the remainder of the flooded area of Brahmanbaria subdivision winter rice was transplanted and the outturn is expected to be 44 *per cent.* of the normal, and will probably suffice for the maintenance of the people until the harvest of the next autumn rice crop. In this subdivision Rs. 5,59,682 have been distributed as loans and Rs. 69,105 as gratuitous relief

Sadar Subdivision

About 50 square miles were affected by the flood in the Goomti river in October; the cultivators are generally fairly well off and there has been less distress than in Brahmanbaria Loans and gratuitous relief have been distributed to the extent of Rs. 78,250 and Rs. 2,543, respectively.

NOAKHALI.

Feni Subdivision.

An area of about 60 square miles was seriously affected by the flood in the Mohari river in October, the winter rice being entirely destroyed in an area of 30 square miles. *Rabi* crops are being grown on the higher lands and loans are being distributed to encourage the extension of this cultivation. There is a good demand for labour.

The agricultural conditions in the remainder of Tippera and Noakhali districts are reported to be satisfactory."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

Cancel gun licen

*14. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is the case—

(*i*) that, on the 26th May last, Mr. Dunlop, Magistrate of Faridpur, presided at a meeting of the Education Committee of the District Board;

(*ii*) that the Chairman of the Committee protested against this, Mr. Dunlop not being a member of the Education Committee;

(*iii*) that subsequently thereto, when Babu Ashutosh Ray (brother of Babu Krishna Das Ray), a member of the District Board, gave notice of a resolution to be moved at the District Board meeting protesting against Mr. Dunlop's action referred to above, Mr. Dunlop ruled the resolution to be out of order?

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; Mr. Kerr.*]

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI—*concld.*

(*b*) Is it the case that Mr. Dunlop cancelled two gun licenses, one belonging to the said Babu Ashutosh Ray and the other belonging to Babu Sachi Nath Shah, merchant and zamindar in the district of Faridpur?

(*c*) Is it the case that in the notice issued on Babu Ashutosh Ray it was stated that the gun license was cancelled and withdrawn because he and others had instituted a civil suit against Government?

(*d*) Is it a fact that Babu Sachi Nath Shah instituted a civil suit at the Chikandi Munsif's Court against certain police officers of the Palong police-station? If so, will the Government be pleased to state how long after the institution of that suit the gun license was cancelled?

(*e*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action (if any) they have taken or are taking with regard to the cases referred to in clauses (*a*) (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*)?

The Hon'ble Mr. KERR replied :—

"(*a*) (*i*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*ii*) The Vice-Chairman of the District Board, who is a member of the Education Committee, objected to Mr. Dunlop's presence at the meeting on the ground that Mr. Dunlop was not a member of that Committee.

(*iii*) Babu Krishna Das Ray (and not Babu Ashutosh Ray) gave notice of a resolution, but it was disallowed by the Chairman as inadmissible under the Rules of Business.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) In the notice it was stated that the gun license was cancelled because Babu Ashutosh Ray had served a notice upon the Collector intimating his intention to bring a suit against Government.

(*d*) Babu Sachi Nath Shah instituted a civil suit in the Court of the 2nd Munsif of Chikandi against Babu Annada Charan Chakravarti, Inspector of Police, Palong. The suit was instituted in June and the gun licenes was cancelled in July.

(*e*) After an inquiry into the facts, Government came to the conclusion that the District Magistrate's action in these cases was irregular and improper. He has been informed accordingly, and the Commissioner has been instructed to deal with the cases under the Arms Act in the exercise of the revisional powers vested in him."

By the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

ovincial Mala-committee in al.

* 15. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the constitution of the Provincial Malaria Committee in Bengal, the names of its members and its functions?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of adding other members to the Committee from the ranks of non-official Indian medical practitioners?

(*c*) How many meetings did the Malaria Committee hold during the current year? Is the report of this Committee published annually?

(*d*) What are the recommendations of this Committee for the prevention of malaria?

(*e*) Is it a fact that malaria is spreading in the Province and that there is a marked increase in the death-rate from malarial fever this year?

[*Mr. De.*]

The Hon'ble MR. DE replied :—

"(*a*) A statement showing the constitution of the Provincial Malaria Committee and the names of its members is laid on the table. Its functions are those defined in paragraph 3 of Resolution No. 2048 San. of 19th December, 1910, a copy of which is laid on the table.

(*b*) Government are not at present considering the question of further enlargement of the Committee.

(*c*) The Committee has held no meetings during the current year. But the Committee has recently been reorganised and it is hoped that it will meet oftener in future. No annual report is published.

(*d*) The Committee has made various specific recommendations in regard to—

(*1*) extending the use of quinine by increase of the number of vendors and improving the form in which the drug is available;

(*2*) educating the public by means of advertisements almanacs and lectures;

(*3*) the treatment of malarial patients at dispensaries,

(*4*) the treatment of school children suffering from malaria,

(*5*) experiments in sub-soil drainage;

(*6*) the drainage of the Arool Bhil, and

(*7*) control of borrow-pits.

(*e*) Malaria is observed to fluctuate from year to year in correlation with rainfall, floods, harvests and other factors. The figures available for 1915 show that up to the end of October the fever death-rate compared with 1914 has shown an increase though there was a decline in ten districts."

Statement referred to by the Hon'ble MR. DE *in his Answer to Question No. 15 (starred) asked by the Hon'ble* BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI *at the Council Meeting of the 13th December, 1915.*

The list of Members of the Provincial Malaria Committee.

1.	The Hon'ble Member of the Board of Revenue, Bengal	*Ex-officio President.*
2.	The Secretary to the Local Government in the Public Works Department.	*Ex-officio Members.*
3.	The Secretary to the Local Government in the Public Works Department (Irrigation Branch).	
4.	Sir Leonard Rogers, C.I.E., M.D., I.M.S., F.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Professor of Pathology, Medical College, Calcutta.	*Members*
5.	Major A. B. Fry, M.D., I.M.S., Special Deputy Sanitary Commissioner ...	
6.	Dr. C. A. Bentley, M.B., D.P.H., Special Deputy Sanitary Commissioner ...	
7.	Rai Upendra Nath Brahamachari Bahadur, M.A., M.D., D.SC., PH.D. (Cal.), Teacher of Medicine, Campbell Medical School.	
	Dr. Nil Ratan Sircar, M.A., M.D. (Cal.) ...	
	The Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal ...	*Member & Secretary.*

[*Mr. De.*]

No. 2048 San., dated Calcutta, the 19th December 1910.

RESOLUTION—By the Government of Bengal, Muni. (San.) Dept.

READ—

1. The proceedings of the Simla Malaria Conference, dated October 1909.
2. Bengal Municipal Department letter to the address of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 268T.—Medl., dated the 12th May 1910.
3. Letter from the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 1368, dated the 27th July 1910.

With a view to the systematic examination of problems connected with the prevalence of malaria, the Government of India have appointed a Central Scientific Committee, in consultation with whom the Provincial organizations should in future work, and the recommendation on this point of the Conference which assembled at Simla in October 1909 to consider the whole subject of the prevention of malaria is quoted below :—

"The Conference having learnt that the Government of India will appoint a Central Scientific Committee to direct and co-ordinate investigations, and that they will also appoint at the request of Local Governments, or on the recommendation of the Central Committee, officers to carry out investigations, recommends that a local organization to work in consultation with this Central Committee be constituted in each province. The nature of such organization should be settled by the Local Government and may take the form of the Sanitary Board.

"A Conference consisting of the members of the Central Committee and a delegate from each local organization should be held annually at such place as may be convenient for the purpose of reviewing the work done and preparing a programme of future work."

2. With the approval of the Government of India, and with the consent of the gentlemen named below, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council has decided to appoint a Provincial Malaria Committee in Bengal, which shall comprise the following members :—

1.	The Member of the Executive Council of the Government of Bengal in the Municipal (Medical) Department	*President.*
2.	The Secretary to the Local Government in the Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Branch).	*Members.*
3.	The Secretary to the Local Government in the Public Works Department (Irrigation Branch).	
4.	Major L. Rogers, I.M.S., M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.). Professor of Pathology, Medical College, Calcutta.	
5.	Assistant Surgeon Upendra Nath Brahmachari, M.A., M.D., PH.D., (Cal.). Teacher of Medicine, Campbell Medical School, Calcutta.	
6.	Dr. Nil Ratan Sircar, M.A., M.D. (Cal.) ...	
7.	The Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal ...	*Member & Secretary.*

Questions relating to the prevention of malaria frequently present problems which have both a medical and an engineering aspect, and expert knowledge in either branch will be represented upon the Committee thus constituted.

3. The superior staff which will be placed, for the time being, at the disposal of the Committee will comprise one Deputy Sanitary Commissioner and one Assistant Surgeon. These officers will work under the direction of the Committee, whose duty it will be, subject to the control of the Local Government, to supervise the direction and method of the inquiries to be undertaken, to scrutinise the results ascertained from time to time, and to assist with their advice all action taken to cope with the problem of malaria

[*Babu S. N. Banerji; Nawab Shams-ul-Huda; The President; Babu S. N. Ray.*]

Bengal. In other administrative matters connected with the subject, such the distribution of quinine, the Committee will be consulted by the Local overnment as occasion may arise, while the Sanitary Board will be directed seek their assistance in the consideration of the bearing upon the question malaria prevention of any drainage projects which may be brought before em. A delegate from the Provincial Committee will attend annually at the entral Conference which the Government of India will convene.

4. By the agency of the Committee, the Lieutenant-Governor in ouncil trusts that the inquiries connected with this most important question ill be conducted upon more systematic lines than has hitherto been the se, and in co-ordination with the action to be taken in other parts of India, hile as the result of their labours it is hoped that knowledge may in time accumulated which will permit of the adoption of remedial measures lculated to effect a substantial diminution in the mortality and suffering at esent caused by malaria in this province.

ORDERED—That a copy of the above Resolution be published in the *alcutta Gazette* for general information, and that copies be communicated the members of the Malaria Committee and the Inspector-General of Civil ospitals, for information and guidance. Also that copies be forwarded to l Commissioners of Divisions for information and communication to all istrict Officers subordinate to them.

The following supplementary questions were asked by the Hon'ble ABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI :—

(1) Will the Government be pleased to publish the substance of the commendations which have been made by the Malaria Committee ?

(2) Will the Government insist upon the Malaria Committee meeting at ast once a quarter for the consideration of such question as they may ink fit ?

he Hon'ble NAWAB SYED SHAMS-UL-HUDA said :—

"May I rise to a point of order ? These are really requests for action, id not requests for information."

HIS EXCELLENCY : "Order ! Order ! There is no doubt that the estions are requests for action and thereby offend against the rules."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

y the Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY :—

Grants mary and dary educa

1. (*a*) What is the amount of the recurring grant by the Government of dia to the Government of Bengal in the years 1912-13, 1913-14 and 14-15 on primary and secondary education ?

(*b*) What is the amount (if any) which has been granted therefrom by e Government of Bengal to primary and secondary schools, year by year—

(*i*) in increasing grants-in-aid to privately-managed schools, division by division,

(*ii*) in increasing the grants-in-aid of Government schools, and

(*iii*) in increasing the supervising staff, buildings, etc., of Government schools ?

(c) How have the sums granted by the Government of India to the overnment of Bengal as non-recurring grants on primary and secondary ucation in the same three years been spent ?

[*Mr. De.*]

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. DE was laid on the table :—

"Two statements (A and B) relating to primary and secondary education, respectively, which give the information asked for in the question, are laid on the table."

Statement A referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble MR. DE *to Question No. 1 (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble* BABU SURENDRA NATH RAY *at the Council Meeting of the 13th December, 1915.*

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

Question No.	Recurring Imperial Grants.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Remarks.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs	
I (*a*)	Special grant for Eastern Bengal districts	2,85,000	2,85,000	2,85,000	
	Durbar grant	5,77,000	6,00,000	6,00,000	
	Grant made in 1913-14	.....	3,65,000(*a*)	3,65,000	(*a*) This was not spent on recurring objects in 1913-14 but was distributed along with the non-recurring grant of 10 lakhs received during the year. The distribution has been shown under question I(*c*)
	Total ...	8,62,000	12,50,000	12,50,000	
I (*b*)	(*i*) Grant-in-aid to privately managed primary schools —				
	Presidency Division ...	.....	96,408	1,17,660	
	Burdwan ,, ...	.....	1,40,796	1,58,040	
	Dacca ,, ...	36,504	1,28,126	1,21,056	
	Chittagong ,, ...	21,697	77,631	78,288	
	Rajshahi ,, ...	24,521	1,10,622	1,22,460	
	Total ...	82,722	5,53,583	5,97,504	
	(*ii*) Maintenance of Board primary schools—				
	Presidency Division ...	.....	10,244	16,364	
	Burdwan ,, ...	.....	15,240	21,120	
	Dacca ,, ...	22,446	46,522	1,03,120	
	Chittagong ,, ...	17,410	26,549	49,340	
	Rajshahi ,, ...	20,021	36,420	1,04,740	
	Total ...	59,877	1,54,975	2,94,684	
	(*iii*) For other objects—				
	Presidency Division ...	89,031	24,322	10,634	
	Burdwan ,, ...	1,61,256	25,237	12,619	
	Dacca ,, ...	1,70,842	20,997	1,04,164	
	Chittagong ,, ...	56,704	8,440	23,520	
	Rajshahi ,, ...	2,40,055	13,954	49,372	
	Total ...	7,17,888	92,950	2,00,309	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	8,60,487	8,01,508	10,92,497	

on	Non-recurring Imperial Grants.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Remarks.
			Rs.		
(c)	In 1913-14 a non-recurring grant of Rs. 10,00,000 was made by the Government of India, which, together with the recurring grant of Rs. 3,65,000 for 1913-14, made up a consolidated grant of Rs. 13,65,000. This was devoted to the following objects —				
	(1) Construction of Board primary schools.	.....	6,90,000		
	(2) Construction and repairs of guru-training schools.	.....	3,95,000		
	(3) Construction of schools in backward areas.	.....	30,000		
	(4) Buildings for aided primary schools.	.....	1,50,000		
	(5) Equipment of primary schools in Eastern Bengal	.....	1,00,000		
	Total ...	.....	13,65,000		
	Actual amounts paid under each item, division by division.				
	(1) Construction of Board primary schools—				
	Presidency Division ...	.....	51,000		
	Burdwan ,, ...	.....	49,000		
	Dacca ,, ..	.....	1,62,110		
	Chittagong ,, ...	.....	80,135		
	Rajshahi ,, ...	.....	1,49,820		
	Total ...	.....	4,92,065		
	(2) Construction and repairs of guru-training schools—				
	Presidency Division ...	.....	24,249		
	Burdwan ,, ...	.....	27,047		
	Dacca ,, ...	.....	695		
	Chittagong ,, ...	.....	8,046		
	Rajshahi ,, ...	.....	9,013		
	Total ...	.....	69,050		
	(3) The allotment for provision of schools in backward areas has not been distributed.				
	(4) Buildings for aided primary schools—				
	Presidency Division ...	.....	33,000		
	Burdwan ,, ...	.....	67,000		
	Dacca ,, ...	.....	14,800		
	Chittagong ,, ...	.....	11,800		
	Rajshahi ,, ...	.....	23,400		
	Total ...	.....	1,50,000		

Question No.	Non-recurring Imperial Grants.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Remarks.
	(5) Equipment of primary schools in Eastern Bengal—		Rs.		
	Dacca Division ...	.....	40,801		
	Chittagong ,, ...	.....	20,403		
	Rajshahi ,, ...	.....	30,602		
	Total ...	.....	91,806		
	Grand Total ...	.....	8,02,921		

Statement B referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble Mr. De *to Question No. I (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble* Babu Surendra Nath Ray *at the Council Meeting of the 13th December, 1915.*

Secondary Education.

Question No.		1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Remarks.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
I (a)	Improvement of aided secondary Anglo Vernacular schools.	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	
	Secondary education	.....	2,26,000	2,26,000	
	Total ,,	1,50,000	3,76,000	3,76,000	
I(*b*) (*i*)	New and additional grants-in-aid to private schools in—				
	Presidency Division ...	.....	36,646	39,990	
	Burdwan ,, ...	.....	38,258	41,736	
	Dacca ,, ...	.....	1,765	35,754	
	Rajshahi ,, ...	28,630	15,576	16,992	
	Chittagong ,, ...	.....	22,913	24,996	
	Total ...	28,630	1,15,158	1,59,468	
	Building and furniture grants to private schools	1,04,546	18,485	1,01,983	
		1,33,176	1,33,643	2,61,451	
I(*b*)(*ii*)	*Nil*—Government schools do not receive any aid.				
I(*b*)(*iii*)	Improvement of Government school buildings and furniture.	In the Presidency.	.....	1,02,306	
	Allowances to head masters, assistant head masters, head mistresses and assistant head mistresses of Government high and middle schools sanctioned from 1st January, 1915.	Ditto	.....	5,520	Charge for January and February, 1915.
				1,07,826	
	Improvement of school buildings and furniture (Government and private).	.....	39,126	78,361	In 1913-14 Government of India gave a non-recurring grant of 7 lakhs to colleges, secondary schools and training institutions the unspent balance of which was regranted in 1914-15. Definite amount was not set apart for secondary education.

[*Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan; Mr. Birley.*]

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN :—

Certain questions relating to Muhammadan Marriage Registrars in Bengal.

11. *a* Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the names of offices of Muhammadan Marriage Registrars in the Dacca Division which registered over 600 ceremonies during the years 1908-09 to 1914-15 and the average receipts *per* ceremony, on account of fees and gratuities, received by the Registrars of each of those offices?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether, in the case of applications for the opening of new Registration offices, the Permanent Committee have a right to recommend such openings?

(*c*) Is it a fact that their recommendations are, occasionally, considerably modified by the District Officers concerned without the cases being referred to Government?

(*d*) Since the registration of ceremonies under the Bengal Muhammadan Marriages and Divorces Registration Act, 1876 (Ben. Act I of 1876), is optional, will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any hard-and-fast rule that no new Registration offices should be opened within certain specified areas, or whether it is the policy of Government always to consider favourably *bonâ-fide* applications for the opening of new offices made by the residents of any district?

(*e*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the District Registrar of Dacca has made any general remarks during the last two years regarding the opening of new offices in each district, and, if so, will the Government be pleased to lay a copy of those remarks on the table?

(*f*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any definite order or rule directing Sub-Registrars to accept all *Kabin*-names or *Talak*-names for registration without referring the parties to the Muhammadan Marriage Registrars of the areas concerned?

(*g*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of amending the existing law with a view to abolishing the system of payment of gratuities to Muhammadan Marriage Registrars?

The following answer by the Hon'ble Mr. BIRLEY was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) The statement required by the Hon'ble Member is laid on the table.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative. Resolution No. 211 J.D., dated the 17th September, 1912, restricts the functions of the Permanent Committee, as regards the opening of new offices, to giving advice in such matters as may be placed before it by the President, viz., the Inspector General of Registration.

(*c*) Their recommendations are not ordinarily referred to District Officers. Occasionally it is necessary to obtain the views of the District Officer if the Permanent Committee's resolution is at direct variance with his recommendation, and in such cases his views are again placed before the Permanent Committee for consideration and the result is submitted to Government, if necessary.

(*d*) There is no such hard and fast rule as is referred to by the Hon'ble Member. Applications for the opening of new offices have always received careful consideration from the authorities concerned.

(*e*) In connection with the opening of new offices in his district, the Registrar of Dacca made the following general remarks in his report on the administration of the Act in Dacca for 1913-14 :—

> "If each thana or out post had an independent Muhammadan Marriage Registrar's office, the number of ceremonies is likely to increase, as the people in that case would get the offices within easy reach."

[*Mr. Birley.*]

It is impracticable to have an office for each thana or police-station but the Registrar's considered proposals have already received due consideration and new offices have been opened.'

(*f*) Yes, there is an order to this effect.

(*g*) In Eastern Bengal and Assam the Inspector-General of Registration proposed to abolish the Kazi's Act (XII of 1880) and amalgamate its provisions with those of the Bengal Muhammadan Marriage and Divorce Registration Act of 1876, with certain amendments, one of which was to abolish gratuities and to lay down a fixed scale of fees for the registration of ceremonies. The matter is still under the consideration of the Inspector-General of Registration and the Permanent Committee and the draft of a Bill is under preparation.

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY *to Question No. II (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble* CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN *at the Council Meeting of the 13th December, 1915, showing the names of offices of Muhammadan Registrars and Kazis in the Dacca Division which registered over 600 ceremonies during the years 1908-09 to 1914-15 and the average receipts per ceremony, on account of fees and gratuities received by the Registrars of each of these offices.*

Serial No.	Name of Office.	Average Receipts per Ceremony						
		1908-09.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
	Dacca.							
1	Dacca Sadar ...	1·4	1·6	1·5	1·6	1·6	1·7	1·8
2	Nawabganj ...	1·3	1·1	1·1	1·2	1·3	1·3	1·5
3	Munshiganj ...	1·2	1·1	...	1·1	1·3	1·1	1·1
4	Narayanganj ...	1·9	...	...	...	...	2·2	...
5	Srinagar ...	1·1	1·2	...	1	1·2	1·5	1·7
6	Lohajang ...	...	...	...	...	1·1	1·9	...
7	Harirampur ...	1·2		...	1·3	1·1	1·1	
8	Gheor ...			...	2		1·5	
	Mymensingh.							
1	Mymensingh Sadar ...	1·6	1·8	2	1·9	2	2	2
2	Gafargaon ...			2·2	2·2	2·1	2·1	...
3	Iswarganj ...	2·6	2·7	...	...	2·1	2·7	2·8
4	Nandail ...	1·7	1·7	1·6	1·8	2	2	...
5	Gauripur ...	...	...	...	...	...	2·8	
6	Netrakona ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
7	Barhatta ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
8	Kendua ...	...	...	...	...	...	1·5	...
9	Tangail ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
10	Mirzapur ...	...	...	...	...	2	1·9	...
11	Sarisabari ...	...	...	...	...	2·1	2·5	...
12	Kalihati ...	1·3	...	...	...	1·1	1·3	...
13	Kishorganj ...	2·1	2	2	2	2	2	2
14	Karimganj ...	...	...	...	2·8	2·6	2·3	2·1
15	Phulpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·1
16	Ghatail ...	...	...	...	...	1·6	...	1·7
17	Kathiadi ...	1·4	1·3	1·3	1·5	1·7	1·6	1·6
18	Bushal ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	Faridpur.							
1	Madaripur ...	2·2	2·2	2·4	2·3	3·2	3·3	3·3
2	Palong ...	...	...	...	2	2	1·9	...
3	Shibchar ...	...	2	2·1	2	2·2	2·1	...
4	Damadya ...	...	...	...	1·9	1·8	1·5	1·5
5	Bhanga ...	1·6	...	...	1·6	1·5	...	...
	Bakarganj.							
1	Barisal ...	1·7	1·8	1·8	1·8	1·7	1·8	1·8

[*Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan : Mr. Birley.*]

By the Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN—

Sub-R of Assur

III. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the policy (if any) that is adopted in posting Sub-Registrars of Assurances to healthy and unhealthy stations ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is considered as a necessary qualification for the holder of the post of Registrar of Calcutta that he should have first served as Sub-Registrar of Calcutta ?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the average receipts and expenditure in respect of registration, *per* document, in each of the districts of the Presidency except Calcutta ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY was laid on the table :—

"(*a*) The policy adopted by Government in posting Sub-Registrars to healthy and unhealthy stations is to post them in the manner which suits best the exigencies of the public service

(*b*) It is not a necessary qualification

(*c*) A statement is laid on the table."

Statement referred to in the Answer by the Hon'ble MR. BIRLEY *to Question No. III unstarred asked by the Hon'ble* CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN *at the Council Meeting of the 13th December, 1915, showing the average receipts and expenditure in respect of registration, per document, in each of the districts of the Presidency except Calcutta.*

Districts.	Average receipt per document			Average expenditure per document		
	Rs	A.	P.	Rs	A.	P.
Burdwan	1	7	6	0	14	9
Birbhum	1	1	7	0	10	7
Bankura	1	3	5	0	11	2
Midnapore	1	3	6	0	11	0
Hooghly	1	4	9	0	15	9
Howrah	1	8	7	0	12	3
24-Parganas	1	5	5	0	12	6
Nadia	1	6	9	1	0	6
Murshidabad	1	3	6	0	13	6
Jessore	0	13	2	0	9	10
Khulna	1	1	8	0	9	1
Dacca	1	1	6	0	11	2
Mymensingh	1	3	4	0	8	7
Faridpur	1	2	4	0	12	11
Bakarganj	1	3	2	0	9	9
Chittagong	0	15	10	0	9	6
Noakhali	1	1	1	0	10	7
Tippera	1	1	9	0	10	7
Rajshahi	1	5	4	0	11	1
Dinajpur	1	2	10	0	10	2
Jalpaiguri	1	10	9	0	15	0
Rangpur	0	15	10	0	11	1
Bogra	1	2	0	0	8	6
Pabna	1	3	3	0	11	6
Malda	1	0	3	0	10	1
Darjeeling	2	10	4	3	1	4

The figures given are those of 1914

[*Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur; Mr. De.*]

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Provincial Malaria Committee in

IV. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the measures taken by the Provincial Malaria Committee in Bengal during the last three years, and to what extent these measures have been successful in reducing the ravages of malaria ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble MR. DE was laid on the table :—

"The Provincial Malaria Committee is an advisory, not an executive body. For the recommendations made by the Committee the Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer to a similar question asked by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji. Particulars of certain anti-malarial works carried out during the last three years with the approval of the Provincial Malaria Committee are given in three statements (A, B and C) appended. During the past year, five Sub-Assistant Surgeons were also employed on quinine distribution in Malda, and an Assistant Surgeon besides Sub-Assistant Surgeons was sent to Manikganj. Quinine has also been distributed to school children in Hooghly. It is impossible to estimate the actual result of this work, but numerous petitions for its continuance show that it was highly appreciated. The work done on the lines recommended by the Provincial Malaria Committee for the popularisation of quinine has shown excellent results, as may be seen by the rapid increase in sales during the last three years. Over 73,000,000 grains have been sold up to 30th November this year as against 45,301,000 sold in 1913. See statement D appended."

Statement A referred to by the Hon'ble MR. DE *in his Answer to Question No. IV (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble* RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR *at the Council Meeting of the 13th December 1915.*

1912-13.

District	Number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons	Loans	Number of villages visited	Number of children examined	Number of children with spleen enlarged	Spleen rate per cent	Number of [illegible]	Number of quinine treatments distributed
Nadia ...	8	Chapra ...			24,694	13,274	53·75	17,280
		Kushtia ..						
		Kumarkhali ...						
		Alamdanga ..						
		Kaligunge ..						
		Nakasipara .						
		Meherpur .						
		Daulatpur ..						
		Krishnapur ...						
		Hanskhali ..						
Jessore .	8	Narail .	...		20,834	13,156	63·14	19,160
		Magura						
		Sailkupa ...						
		Kotchandpur .						
		Moheshpur ...						
		Kesubpur ...						
		Manirampur ...						
		Barakalia ...						
		Lohagara						
		Bagerpara ...						
		Salikha ...						
		Bongaon ...						
		Gaighatta ...						
Murshidabad	6	Bhagabangola ...	..	...	23,498	11,143	47·42	16,767
		Noada ..						
		Hariharpara ...						
		Jellunghi ..						
		Raninaghar ...						
		Asanpore ...						
		Manullabazar ..						
		Sujagunge ...						
Hooghly ...	1	Pandua ...	...	...	1,553	...	75·00	398
Darjeeling ...	1	Silliguri Terai ...	...	...	883	...	79·4[illegible]	1,956

[*Mr. De.*]

Statement B referred to by the Hon'ble MR. DE *in his Answer to Question No. IV unstarred asked by the Hon'ble* RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR *at the Council Meeting of the 13th December, 1915.*

1913-14.

District	Number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons.	Name of Fair.	Number of visitors present.	Number of Vaccinators.	Number of children vaccinated.	Number per mille.	Number of cases of acute fever seen.	Number of quinine tablets distributed.
Hooghly	3	Dwarkanath	3	1,336	988	74·00	..	1,113
		Pandua	11	2,402	1,618	88·08	..	
Nadia	4	Ranaghat	106	13,192	9,946	75·40	..	6,094
		Hanskhali	95	14,666	7,340	50·05	..	
		Kissennagar	5	1,151	1,149	99·82	..	
Murshidabad	3	Nagar	116	1,751	1,480	84·49	..	9,000
		Sadr	85	9,658	8,704	90·11	..	
		Mahim	6	1,630	1,016	58·08	..	
Jessore	5	Mahammadpur	11	8,014	4,541	56·49	..	10,270
		Sailkupa	17	4,380	2,988	32·69	..	
		Gorakhati	80	9,561	6,312	66·00	..	
		Sadkhira	13	3,403	1,765	50·38	..	
		Jhenaidah	31	6,756	3,869	57·26	..	
Darjeeling	2	Sibgunj	20	489	55	11·09	..	1,000
		Naxalbari	23	499	249	50·10	..	
		Khoribari	12	171	17	9·48	..	
		Pankabari	1	129	11	11·00	..	
Malda	4	Mahadipur	1	2,945	2,224	75·03	..	11,750
		Kaliachak	140	10,151	4,790	47·19	..	
		Nawabganj	3	1,693	984	58·16	..	
		Ratua	5	4,142	2,339	56·77	..	

[*Mr. De.*]

Statement C referred to by the Hon'ble MR. DE *in his Answer to Question No. IV (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble* RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR *at the Council Meeting of the 13th December, 1915.*

1914-15.

District.	Number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons.	Thana.	Number of villages visited.	Number of children examined.	Number of children with spleen enlarged.	Spleen rate *per cent.*	Number of cases of acute fever seen	Number of quinine treatments distributed
Burdwan ...	6	Burdwan ...	54	2,238	1,296	57·9	240	956
		Raina ...	101	3,249	2,623	80·7	615	2,191
		Satgachia ...	118	5,971	3,742	62·6	1,063	2,085
		Galsi	69	4,476	3,798	84·8	1,137	2,129
		Kaksa ...	96	4,174	3,491	83·6	2,366	2,387
		Kalna ...	119	6,412	5,923	92·3	826	2,486
		Purbasthali ...	108	3,977	3,586	90·1	1,388	1,996
		Monteswar ...	23	700	265	37·8	68	290
Birbhum ...	2	Suri	26	1,103	690	62·5	278	265
		Sakulipur ...	122	6,355	2,076	32·6	1,165	2,575
		Murarai ...	126	6,837	3,913	57·2	2,704	2,900
Midnapore ...	1	Ghatal ...	94	2,141	1,858	86·7	2,040	2,733
24 Parganas ...	2	Tollygunge ...	53	4,342	3,604	83·0	475	349
		Baruipur ...	35	2,655	2,296	86·4	241	241
		Baraset ...	30	1,552	642	41·3	303	385
		Dum Dum ...	9	1,038	284	27·3	95	194
Khulna ...	2	Khulna ...	20	190	273	55·7	229	512
		Dumuria ...	95	2,366	1,039	43·9	1,082	1,571
		Kalaroa ...	86	9,161	3,603	39·3	1,389	1,742
Rajshahi ..	4	Boalia ...	22	2,073	1,221	58·9	286	449
		Godagari ...	13	682	370	54·2	86	292
		Puthia ...	28	1,214	685	56·4	390	1,273
		Charghat ...	24	2,571	1,417	55·1	454	570
		Lalpur ...	32	2,799	1,398	49·9	466	1,252
Pabna ...	4	Pabna ..	43	6,201	4,568	73·6	1,156	1,078
		Chatmohar ..	19	2,374	1,620	68·2	390	390
		Ranganj ...	12	2,118	1,344	63·4	265	368
Faridpur ..	3	Pangsa ...	80	7,118	2,493	35·0	1,096	1,083
		Goalundo ...	59	10,039	4,584	45·6	925	1,300
		Bhushna ...	103	8,898	2,318	26·0	1,001	1,192

[*M Dr.*]

Statement D referred to by the Hon'ble MR. DE *in his Answer to Question No. IV (unstarred) asked by the Hon'ble* RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR *at the Council Meeting of the 15th December, 1915, showing sales of Quinine in this Presidency given in grains for purpose of easy comparison.*

DISTRICTS	1913	1914	1915 From 1st January to 30th November 11 months
Burdwan	2,803,200	1,110,400	1,938,400
Birbhum .	1,059,100	4,094,400	2,920,000
Bankura . .	1,190,000	2,800,000	1,452,000
Midnapur . .	1,136,600	1,545,600	1,296,000
Hooghly	497,400	1,753,600	872,000
Serampore	170,400	128,800	119,600
Howrah ...	329,000	159,200	320,000
24-Parganas . ..	725,200	782,400	992,000
Nadia	1,916,800	5,116,000	5,120,000
Murshidabad	2,684,400	5,663,200	5,642,400
Jessore . . .	3,477,400	1,381,600	1,491,200
Khulna .	1,884,800	1,389,600	2,743,200
Rajshahi .. .	2,520,800	3,371,200	3,440,000
Dinajpur . .	883,200	1,112,800	1,120,000
Jalpaiguri	825,600	719,200	1,068,000
Darjeeling . ..	146,000	141,600	80,000
Rangpur	1,206,800	2,318,400	2,860,000
Bogra . ..	592,800	962,400	1,440,000
Pabna . . .	3,682,400	6,164,800	5,120,000
Malda . . .	1,908,800	2,486,400	2,138,400
Dacca	2,073,600	5,454,400	4,160,000
Mymensingh .. .	2,706,400	6,831,400	8,100,000
Faridpur	3,252,000	4,800,000	8,000,000
Bakarganj	3,136,000	1,472,000	1,960,000
Chittagong	1,732,800	2,394,400	1,760,000
Tippera	1,600,800	1,094,400	960,000
Noakhali	815,200	671,200	660,000
Chittagong Hill Tracts	253,600	261,600	240,000
Total ...	45,301,000	72,464,000	73,843,200

[*Rai R. C. Pal Bahadur : Mr. Birley : The President.*]

By the Hon'ble RAI RADHA CHARAN PAL BAHADUR :—

Alleged famine scarcity in districts of Bankura and the 24-Parganas

V. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the extent and severity of famine or scarcity existing in the districts of Bankura and the 24-Parganas and what steps they have taken or are taking for the relief of the people in those areas ?

The following answer by the Hon'ble Mr. BIRLEY was laid on the table :—

"*Bankura*.—The Hon'ble Member is referred to the replies which have been given to-day to the questions put by the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji and the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Ray.

24-Parganas.—There is no famine or scarcity. An unusually good crop of winter rice is being harvested, and the crops of autumn rice and jute were good. Earlier in the year there was some distress among agricultural labourers and it was met adequately by private charity and by the provision of extra work by the District Board."

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS :—

His Excellency the PRESIDENT said :—

"GENTLEMEN,—Once more I welcome you here. You have met prepared to discharge during another session the duties entrusted to you as Members of the Legislative Council and to assist, so far as you can, in the good government of Bengal. As far as legislation is concerned, I fear there will be very little in which Government will be able to ask for your help. Legislation which is to be of any use must often be contentious. I know the view which prevails about contentious legislation at the present time; many of you, I believe, share in that view, so perhaps you do not regret that there will be little legislation. Still some of you may be sorry to hear, as I certainly am sorry to say, that I have very little hope of being able to ask you to deal even in its earliest stage during this session with a Calcutta Municipal Bill. Such a Bill is I think at any rate very much needed and I sincerely hope I might see it passed during my time of office. I feel I can hardly hope for that now. I know that some of you intend to shape your course of action in accordance with what you expect to happen about this Bill, and so I take the first opportunity of telling you what I fear.

By your questions you have already helped Government. You must, I expect, feel, for instance, that we are glad of the opportunity which questions afforded to Mr. Birley of explaining what we are doing in regard to famine and flood. Throughout the Presidency as a whole the agricultural situation is excellent. Autumn rice was good. The crop of winter rice now being reaped is equally good. I have myself been in places where I am told they never had better paddy crops. Less jute was grown this year than has been the case in other recent years, but the cultivators have got a price which I hope may check further restriction in area. But we all know that some districts have suffered. Tippera, specially in the Brahmanbaria subdivision, the Kishorganj subdivision of Mymensingh and the Feni subdivision of Noakhali all suffered from floods and the district of Bankura had suffered from drought. I learn more clearly every day that we are often apt here, owing to insufficiency of information, to draw incorrect conclusions to an extent which surprises one who comes from a country where accurate knowledge of matters is more quickly disseminated than it is here, and I feel that there is a distinct advantage all round in Government's being called on to answer questions such as have been put and answered to-day. It is right that we should all realise that though the conditions in the affected areas are much improved, there are still large tracts where there is no winter rice, and where you have every right to expect Government to realise that much must still be done. We are glad to make it known that our officers are working hard and will continue to work hard, and we are glad to make it known that private individuals and private

charitable organisations are working hard too in co-operation with our officers to relieve distress. Between 9 and 10 lakhs of rupees have already been distributed in loans, and more than a lakh in gratuitous relief. In Bankura and in Brahmanbaria special grants amounting in the aggregate to nearly 2 lakhs have been given to District Boards to help them to construct reservoirs and dig tanks as relief works, and we may hope that these will prove of lasting benefit. There is one particular connected with this to which I should like to refer. I dare say many of you know that in the Bankura district the weavers are suffering along with the agriculturists. A local committee presided over by the District Judge, Mr. Tindal, is doing its best for these weavers. Government have granted Rs. 50,000 to Mr. Findal's committee to help on this work which we believe is being well done. There are many of you or of your friends who are interested in local industries, perhaps you may find some opportunity of helping Mr. Tindal to get orders and so do something practical to keep one industry at least alive and at the same time do a charity to the poor weavers.

Again, in the matter of police you have shown your interest, and if the answers given by the Chief Secretary help in any way to make better known what Government have done and are doing to try and bring about a better state of things, it will be good for all of us. Government recognise that things are not perfect and are determined to try and improve things. We feel sure that some of the steps we have taken were right steps. I know that many of my non-official colleagues in this Council and others who are not in this Council are sure of this too. I hope they are as sure as I am that Government are going to take more such steps and are as hopeful as I am that the public are going to do their best to see that what Government do shall meet with help. I do not refer merely to the recent outbreak of a new form of crime in Calcutta—that sort of thing must be met here, as it has been in other places by special measures, and it is not easy here any more than it is in other places to find at once effective remedies for new forms of crime. As to that I can only say that we shall do our best. What I refer to is the more general questions—the questions as to which Mr. Gourlay has been getting for me definite information. It is a truism that the efficiency of a police force—or perhaps I ought rather to say of a civil police force—depends on its closeness of touch with the people and on the extent to which it secures the confidence of the people. It is a truism that a police force whose members do not speak the language of the people among whom they are working cannot be as effective as one would like to see it—and it is a truism that if people are not willing to give evidence about crimes, the detection of crime becomes a very difficult matter, or that if people fear that by giving evidence they may bring evil consequences on them from which the police cannot protect them, they will hesitate to give that evidence. We know all that and we know, too, though perhaps not so clearly as some of you do or as many outside of this Council know, what a hindrance to the willing giving of evidence there is in the absence of facilities, in elaborate procedure, or in delays—all of which involve loss of time, loss of money, troublesome journeys, and other inconveniences. We know all that, but we have got to take things as we find them, and try to alter them so that before long they may be very different. We cannot do everything at once—it will take time—but I welcome anything which leads people to realise more clearly that Government are doing something. We have no reason to be hopeless. The proportion of the police to the general population in Bengal is smaller than in any other province of India. We have only one policeman to about every two thousand people—in Bombay which is often quoted to us, they have one to every 772. Our criminal statistics do not compare unfavourably with those in other provinces. This shows I hope that our people are law-abiding on the whole, but it also shows I think that co-operation between the police and the people is not quite so absolutely non-existent as we are sometimes hastily inclined to believe. Old traditions take long to die, and an isolated example of an evil practice which once was common is apt to be looked on as proving

that that practice is still common. But I am hopeful that Bengalis will be no slower than other people are to see improvement, and to welcome it, and to go out to meet it. All reforms in administration, or nearly all reforms, it is often said, cost money; but the reform which is worth more than any other often costs none—that reform is a change in the attitude of our minds towards any particular question. I shall not dwell on that; it is a matter in which non-officials can help quite as much as officials, and I hope that all of us do help when we can.

But there are many things which do cost money and which we all want, and which I fear we cannot yet get. Especially is this so here just now in matters concerning health and education. We all regret—no one regrets more than Government—that many things cannot now be done which we hoped to see done at once. We have had to abandon projects on which we had set our hearts, we have to surrender money that we feel we could spend well, we have to do this because of vital necessity. I fear we must continue doing it, for rigid as our economy in the current year is, our economy next year must I fear be even more rigid. This means to all of us delay which we dislike; to me it means that I must leave Bengal without seeing much done that I should rejoice to see done; we can only take comfort in the hope that it also means that when those things are done they will be better done, for we can use this interval of pause in thinking our schemes out even better, in discussing difficulties with each other and seeing how we can meet each other. We have our different ideas as to what is controversial, but I feel sure that to shirk difficulty is not the best way of avoiding controversy, and there are many difficulties which you can help Government to get round in their dealing with questions which all of you and Government alike wish to solve.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 3.

THE BENGAL SMOKE NUISANCES AMENDMENT BILL, 1915.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beatson Bell moved that the Bengal Smoke-nuisances Amendment Bill, 1915, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Lang, the Hon'ble Mr. Green, the Hon'ble Mr. Panton, the Hon'ble Mr. Payne, the Hon'ble Mr. Hilary, the Hon'ble Raja Hrishikesh Laha, the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, the Hon'ble Mr. Bray, the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. C. Artil and the mover, with instructions to circulate their report in time for its consideration in Council at the meeting to be held in January next.

The motion was put and agreed to.

RESOLUTIONS.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEMS Nos. 4 to 6.

The following resolutions, which stood in the name of the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ, were, by leave of the President, withdrawn:—

4. This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken to provide special travelling allowance rates for district sub-registrars and district joint sub-registrars in the districts of Bakarganj, Faridpur, Noakhali and Chittagong.

5. This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that steps be taken to provide floating dispensaries for the Eastern Bengal districts of the Presidency.

[*Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq.*]

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that all existing circulars, relating to the extension of the appointments of Muhammadans in certain branches of the public service, be made applicable to all departments in the public service, and that all heads of departments be directed to submit quarterly reports on the working of such circulars and that copies of such reports be circulated to all recognized Anjumans and Muhammadan public bodies.

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 7.

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ moved the following resolution:—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the present system of having the Courts of Presidency Magistrates at different centres be abolished, and that all such Courts (Stipendiary and Honorary) be located in one building in some central place in the city.

He said:—

"In moving this resolution, I wish to ask my honorable colleagues to disabuse their minds of any misapprehension that may possibly exist regarding the motives which have induced me to bring forward this subject for a discussion in this Council. I am afraid there is a lurking suspicion in the minds of some hon'ble members that somewhere behind the resolution itself, there is perhaps the obnoxious voice of the members of the legal profession who are trying to induce Government to abolish a system which has adversely affected their pockets. In other words although the voice in this resolution may be the voice of Esau the hand is really the hand of Jacob. I can assure my hon'ble friends that there is really no reason for any suspicion of this kind. I have been induced to move in the matter in consequence of facts which have come within my own observation, and I am moving this resolution in Council on my own responsibility and on my own initiative. I hope I shall be able to convince hon'ble members that the splitting up of the Police Courts has been more of an advantage rather than a disadvantage to the legal profession. This may sound somewhat paradoxical but like all paradoxes it contains an unsuspected truth.

* * *

Coming now to the resolution itself, I hope it will be conceded by my hon'ble colleagues that if the system of splitting up the Police Courts in Calcutta has introduced a state of things worse than they were before, the system stands self-condemned and should be abolished in favour of the old system, if not for one better. In order to judge how far the new system has justified expectations, it is necessary to consider the circumstances under which the innovation was undertaken. It seems to me that the idea of splitting up the Police Courts originated in an initial blunder and it is not surprising that the measure has proved a downright failure.

My Lord, a Central Police Court in Calcutta has been a recognised institution since the introduction of British rule in this country. It had, on the whole, worked well, and there was never any complaint about its location, no cry from any section of the public or the press to break it up into different courts located in different parts of the town. The question then arises, Who wanted the partition? Not certainly the public. Government therefore must have moved on their own initiative and it is therefore necessary to consider whether there was any real justification for this scheme of partition.

To begin with, there has been practically no increase in the amount of real judicial work performed in the Calcutta Police Courts. A careful study

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[*Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Huq.*]

of the figures placed on the Council table in March and April, 1913, at the instance of the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur and the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari, would clearly show that if the petty cognizable cases (which practically take no time) are excluded, the amount of case work has hardly increased at all in recent years. In other words, there has been no appreciable increase in the number of serious cases which really indicate the criminal activity of the people. The area of the town has also not increased. The jurisdiction of the Presidency Magistrates remains unaltered. The number of police-stations has remained as it has been since 1845. Government themselves have recognised these facts by their recent decision to abolish the post of one of the stipendiary Presidency Magistrates. Besides, the facilities of locomotion and communication have practically annihilated time and space in Calcutta, and have made it smaller and much more centralised than it was a few decades ago. In short, Calcutta has not certainly become too big for one central criminal court so far as area is concerned, and I have just now shown that the amount of case work has also remained practically the same as it was before the partition of the Police Courts was undertaken.

The only official explanation forthcoming for a partition of the Calcutta Police Courts is to be found in the Resolution of the Local Government, No. 1553 P.D., dated the 4th June, 1913, and published at page 769 of the *Supplement to the Calcutta Gazette*, dated the 11th June, 1913. It is there stated that 'stipendiary Presidency Magistrates have increased in recent years from their original number of two to as many as five and it has been found altogether impossible to provide accommodation in any way suitable for the junior stipendiary Magistrates and for the Honorary Presidency Magistrates who might render valuable assistance if such accommodation were available. It is therefore clear that it is on the ground of insufficiency of accommodation that the Government condemned the system of holding the various courts in one and the same building and, we may take it, that the partition was devised to relieve what Government thought was nothing more than a physical congestion owing to insufficiency of accommodation. It appears that before the announcement of the transfer of the Imperial capital from Calcutta, lump-sum estimates had been prepared for adding two new court-rooms to the Lal Bazar building where the Presidency Magistrates' Courts were at that time located. When however the transfer of the Government of India offered a reasonable prospect of utilising various buildings which it was thought would be rendered vacant, the idea of adding new rooms to the Lal Bazar building was abandoned, and it was at one time thought that the Local Government might obtain possession of the big building where the Foreign and Military Secretariat of the Government of India was then located. It was even hoped that it would be found possible to convert No. 3, Charnock Place, into a centralised Presidency Magistrate's Court and no idea of splitting up the courts into different buildings had even then entered into the counsels of Government. No definite decision was however arrived at, and, as we learn from the resolution itself, the present system of creating two new courts in the northern and southern portions of the town respectively was introduced as an experimental measure in order to relieve the physical congestion then existing at the Lal Bazar Police Courts. When, however, this decision became known to the public, the Hon'ble Dr. Deba Prasad Sarbadhikari from his place in this very Council and the Indian section of the press, notably, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, *Reis and Rayyet*, the *Bengalee*, the *Bangabasi*, the *Hitabadi* and the *Naik* in one voice pointed out that it would be worse than useless to take away a slice to Jorabagan and another to Kyd Street, and they all suggested that, if the Fire Brigade could be removed from the lower floor of the Lal Bazar building, the alleged congestion would be wholly relieved, and the courts could continue to be held at Lal Bazar until a new central court was built. The Government, however, stated that the suggestion was not immediately practicable, although the Fire Brigade were almost immediately removed from Lal Bazar and no reasons

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were given as to why the suggestion could not be made immediately practicable. Mr. J. C. Peterson, I.C.S., was placed on special duty to examine this suggestion and formulate definite proposals, but his report has been withheld from the public and has been till now one of the secrets confidential possessions of the official world. What followed is significant. A Government resolution gave out that all available space and buildings within the Police compound at Lal Bazar including the Presidency Magistrates Courts were urgently required by the Commissioner of Police *vide Calcutta Gazette*, dated 9th April, 1913. It is evident, therefore, that the removal of the Chief Presidency Magistrate's Court to the Bankshall building was not so much due to physical congestion as to the necessity for meeting the urgent requirements of the police. The plea of physical congestion was of only secondary importance, and there must have been other considerations which will remain a sealed book to the public.

The Government do not claim the partition of the Police Courts to be a permanent measure. It is at best an experiment, a makeshift remedy to relieve the alleged physical congestion of the courts at Lal Bazar. The experiment has necessarily involved an enormous expenditure of public money, and before we proceed to consider whether results have justified this expenditure, it will be better if we try to have an idea of what the actual expenditure has been. In the first place, there has been a considerable increase in the recurring and non-recurring charges. I cannot profess to be able to give this Council an idea of the actual expenditure incurred under this head, but I have been able to gather the following figures which will speak for themselves :—

		Rs.
1.	Additions and alterations, etc.	65,000
2.	Electric fittings	8,000
3.	Furniture and equipments of the two new courts ...	1,300
4.	Repairs, etc.	5,000
	Total ...	77,300

There must be other items of expenditure unknown to the public, which, I am sure, will bring up the total well up to a lakh. Secondly, a good deal of recurring expenditure is being incurred under the present system. The ministerial and menial staff has been considerably increased; the police establishment attached to the courts has been highly augmented, the Public Prosecutor and his staff have also been strengthened; Rs. 600 a month is being paid as house-rent for the Kyd Street Court building alone, besides the house-rent of officers displaced by the creation of Jorabagan Police Court; the contingent expenses have increased enormously, the rates and taxes, hot-weather charges, initial expenses, liveries to peons, telephone charges, not to mention numerous other charges inseparable from the paraphernalia of a court establishment, which have all increased to a degree almost appalling. The figures that I have been able to get on private inquiry alone work up to more than Rs. 36,000 a year. The position therefore is this: for the sake of an experiment which could not be more than a mere temporary measure, Government have had to spend nearly a lakh as initial non-recurring expenditure and a recurring expenditure of Rs. 36,000 a year. Is it fair, is it just that all this money should be practically wasted for reasons which, in the face of them, appear to be wholly unsound and unjustifiable?

There could have been some justification for all this enormous expenditure of public money if there could have been shown that some practical benefits have resulted to the public by the removal of any

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inconvenience or hardship which may have been due to the old system. Let us examine this aspect of the case carefully. The Hon'ble Mr. Stevenson-Moore, the then Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in reply to a question asked by the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur at the Council meeting of the 2nd April, 1913, stated that 'the partition would increase the efficiency of the Courts and that the public concerned would be greatly benefited and convenienced.' These then are the official justifications for the partition. I will presently show that the promised 'efficiency' of the courts has proved extremely illusory and that the public concerned have been deriving results utterly incompatible with either benefit or convenience.

Let us first consider the question of *efficiency*. Now, efficiency is a mysterious term which has always been hurled at us by the officials in order to silence unpleasant criticism. It is a word which, in the official dictionary, seems to possess various meanings, and it can be made to suit the requirements of any argument in support of actions which are absolutely indefensible. It is difficult, however, to make out what the efficiency of a court really is. It may mean prompt despatch of work, the turning out of a large quantity of manual work without regard to quality; it may mean the despatch of work at the sacrifice of all conformity to law and procedure, or it may mean that the cases tried by Magistrates should end in a particular way quite irrespective of what the merits of the case may really happen to be. However, we find that, so far as this efficiency is concerned, there have been the following objectionable results flowing from the system of partition:—

There has been an uneven distribution of work between the Magistrates. At Lal Bazar, all the Presidency Magistrates sat in one building and the Chief Presidency Magistrate took cognizance of all cases and transferred them to other Magistrates, regard being had to the state of their files, and there was thus a fair distribution of work. Now the Magistrates sit in different parts of the town, exercise limited jurisdiction, take practical cognizance of cases within the areas allotted to them, and the distribution of work amongst them is neither even nor uniform. This is as it might have been expected to be. The three police divisions of Calcutta to which the jurisdictions of the three new courts have been made to conform are based more on considerations of geographical area than on the quantity of work actually arising within their jurisdictions (*vide Calcutta Gazette*, 26th March, 1913). The result of the present arrangement has been that, while one Magistrate generally rises at 2 P.M., another goes on holding court till 7 P.M., and while one Magistrate in one division finds time hanging heavy on his hands for lack of sufficient work, another Magistrate finds himself overburdened with work. Another result of the arrangement has been that a senior Magistrate now tries a large number of petty cases, while the bulk of the serious cases involving important questions of law and fact are tried by junior Magistrates.

The next objection to the present system, and which in my opinion ought to knock the fetish of efficiency on the head is the delay which now arises in the despatch of business. It was thought at first that the partition would lead to a prompt despatch of business by all the courts. But a careful observation of the working and effect of the scheme will show that several cases have to be kept back daily and adjourned on account of prosecuting officers or material witnesses being engaged in one court while their other cases are being called out in another. At Lal Bazar an index was preserved of old convicts, and the antecedents of accused persons sent up by the police for trial before Magistrates could in most cases be traced in the course of one day. But since the partition, cases have got to be adjourned both in the Jorabagan and Kyd Street Courts and accused persons remanded to *hajat* for the verification of their antecedents. In several matters (*e.g.*, the Press Act, the Extradition Act and so forth) the Chief Presidency Magistrate exercises exclusive jurisdiction. For some purposes, therefore, the public has to go to Bankshall Street and for other purposes to Kyd Street or

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Jorabagan. This double court arrangement leads neither to the convenience of the public nor to a prompt despatch of business nor to the efficiency of the Court. In the matter of correspondence with the public and the various Government departments or public bodies, and in the matter of all orders of the High Court, or in the matter of services of processes sent for execution in Calcutta from Courts outside, as also in the matter of transfer of cases from the file of one Magistrate to another, there is always considerable delay inasmuch as the machinery of the Police Court has got to be set in motion only through the Chief Presidency Magistrate who ultimately sends down his directions to Kyd Street or Jorabagan. It is unnecessary to dilate on this aspect of the question, for it is evident that the location of the Chief Presidency Magistrate in a building miles away from the other Presidency Magistrates must necessarily lead to waste of time in consequence of the time which must necessarily be taken up before the Chief Presidency Magistrate can possibly communicate with the other Magistrates.

I claim also that with the partition there has been an ineffective supervision of the subordinate courts by the Chief Presidency Magistrate. As a matter of fact supervision of the Chief Presidency Magistrate has become now merely nominal. Formerly the Chief Presidency Magistrate kept a daily watch on the files of the cases pending in the Courts of the Honorary Presidency Magistrates, and exercised a certain amount of administrative control over the Magistrates subordinate to him, but now he has practically lost touch with them. In the very interests of efficiency and administration of justice it is highly desirable that the other Presidency Magistrates, who exercise vast summary powers, should be under the close supervision of a strong Chief Presidency Magistrate.

So much then for the efficiency. I hope Hon'ble Members will not be surprised to hear that the present system has led to great inconvenience and even hardship to the public. It may be news to Hon'ble Members to hear that the case of one division is even now being tried in another. Under section 21(*1*) of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, with the sanction of the Local Government, framed certain rules to regulate the conduct and distribution of business in the three newly-created courts. Within a day or two from this territorial division, it was found that there were very few serious cases coming up before the Kyd Street Court. It was therefore decided (I am told without the sanction of the Local Government) that all cases under the Cruelty to Animals Act, all obstruction cases arising within the jurisdiction of the Port office, all motor-car cases, and all petty cases taken recognizance of by the Traffic Police arising in any part of Calcutta, would be heard at the Kyd Street Police Court. As to the convenience of the public brought about by this arrangement, the least said the better. A poor carter might be arrested by an S.P.C.A. agent at Shambazar, a dingi majhi by the Port Police at Bichalighat, a theela gharriwala by the Traffic Police at Barabazar, or a motor-car driver by a sergeant at Lal Bazar, but they would be hauled up all the way to Kyd Street to suffer a sentence of fine—perhaps of a rupee or two, although they would have to pass through the jurisdiction of one or the other or both the Courts at Jorabagan and Bankshall Street. What, then, is the good of having a partition of the Courts if cases arising within the jurisdiction of one Magistrate have got to be tried in another Court miles away? But this is not all. I am told that the Chief Presidency Magistrate has passed a general order that all complaints and cases arising in the thanas of Muchipara and Poddopukur (which were in the jurisdiction of the Central Court) shall be heard at the Kyd Street Court. The result of this order is that a person now living at Rajabazar, Pataldanga, Champtala or Nebutola has got to go to Kyd Street with all his witnesses to prosecute another or defend himself in a criminal case, although the Bankshall Street Court is very much nearer to

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him. Further, the Presidency Magistrate has passed another order that all complaints and cases arising in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 of the Calcutta Port Police shall be heard at the Central Police Court. This again is a curious arrangement; although the Jorabagan Court is within a stone's throw from the first Division Port Police, yet all cases arising within its jurisdiction are being tried at Bankshall Street. Similarly the 3rd Division Port Police is far closer to Kyd Street than to Bankshall Street; still all cases arising within the jurisdiction of this Division are being sent up for trial to the Central Police Court. It is clear therefore that the experiment of locating the police courts in different parts of the town has led to various other experiments in order to keep up an even distribution of work in the three Courts. The repeated attempts of the Chief Presidency Magistrate to regulate distribution of business by constant changes in the territorial jurisdictions of the Courts have produced the utmost inconvenience to the litigant public. It is time that the chapter of experiments should now be closed by giving up a system which has got to be kept up by makeshift arrangements leading neither to convenience to the public nor to efficiency.

Hitherto I have dealt with the interference of the territorial jurisdictions of the various Magistrates by circular orders of the Chief Magistrate. There are other instances of such interference which are far more objectionable, because they seem to imply an invidious distinction between Magistrates on the ground of nationality. As a matter of fact the partition has set up a manifestly objectionable distinction between Indian and European Magistrates. The case of Nirmal Kanta Roy, which so much exercised the public mind in 1914, occurred within the jurisdiction of Kumortuli thana, and should have been heard at the Jorabagan Police Court. The case, however, was taken out of the jurisdiction of Jorabagan and inquired into somewhere else. This is no solitary instance. The murder of Sub-Inspector Suresh Chandra Mukerjee took place within the jurisdiction of Sukea Street thana and the case against the suspects should have been sent to the Jorabagan Magistrate; but as a matter of fact the case was first put up before the Chief Presidency Magistrate at the Central Court and was transferred by him to the far distant Kyd Street Court. A large number of political suspects were arrested of late within the jurisdiction of Sukea Street thana and sent up under section 109 of the Criminal Procedure Code before the Chief Presidency Magistrate at the Central Court instead of the Jorabagan Court which possesses jurisdiction over this thana. I have no objection to a particular class of cases being taken out of the hands of a particular class of Magistrates, apparently on no grounds whatsoever; but surely the public are bound to put a sinister interpretation on such an invidious distinction between Magistrate and Magistrate. If the Courts had been located in one and the same building, they may not have had any cause for comment at all. It will thus be seen that, although there has been a territorial division of cases coming up before the Courts, the rule is honoured very often in the breach than in the observance.

I have hitherto said nothing as regards the unnecessary and extravagant expenses which parties have to incur in securing legal assistance. The parties cannot get the assistance of lawyers of their own choice. The field of selection in each court has been considerably narrowed. The lawyers who have established their reputation have mostly stuck to the Central Court and now charge increased fees for their services in the other courts. The parties have to pay heavily for carriage and motor hire to meet the travelling expenses of lawyers who are taken from one court to another. The vast majority of pleaders have raised their fees, because they have got to earn their income by doing a far less number of cases at one place than formerly. Even the charge of the Public Prosecutors has gone up. It is a mistake to suppose that the partition of the Police Courts can affect the pleaders at all adversely, for the members of the legal profession know how to make their

[*Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Huq : Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan : Mr. Lyon.*]

clients pay. You may cut off the jurisdiction of the Courts into a hundred slices if you like, but the pruning knife will touch everything else but the pockets of lawyers. It is after all the poor litigants who have got to suffer and pay for the upkeep of an experimental measure which experience has shown to be a downright failure. I hope I have been able to establish that the initial non-recurring expenditure of about a lakh of rupees and the recurring expenditure of more than Rs. 36,000 a year has proved beneficial neither to Government nor the general public. I hope I have shown that the two grounds of efficiency and benefit to the public are themselves the very tests by which the system stands condemned. There has been an uneven distribution of work ; there is delay in the despatch of business ; there is the inefficient supervision of the various courts by the Chief Presidency Magistrate ; there is the arbitrary transfer of cases arising in one division for trial by a Magistrate exercising jurisdiction in another area. There is also the increase in the fees of lawyers, which are being paid by parties to secure legal assistance ; there is the increase in travelling expenses, and even all this does not exhaust the whole list of inconveniences. What then is the remedy? I beg to suggest that this ill-starred experiment should cease and an attempt should be made to locate all the Courts in one and the same building in some central part in this city. This suggestion is not at all too inconvenient to be taken up at once. The Bankshall Street building is big enough to locate not only all the stipendiary Magistrates but all the Honorary Magistrates also. I have been to see the building myself, and I say with confidence that the suggestions I now put before this Council can be very easily carried out.

I do not wish to detain this Council any longer. My Lord, the word 'partition' in Bengal seems to be doomed. There is something in the atmosphere of this Presidency which seems uncongenial to all schemes of partition. It is not surprising therefore that the idea of partitioning the Police Courts was from the very beginning foredoomed to failure. It is not yet, however, too late to amend. I therefore hope that your Excellency's Government will give this matter a patient consideration and bring about a change in a system for which there was initially no justification and which has only led to an enormous waste of public money without bringing about any desirable results."

The Hon'ble CHAUDHURI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL KHAN said :—

"My Lord, in supporting this resolution, I pray that my remarks may not be misleading. I think that, owing to the present system of holding Presidency Magistrates' Courts in different parts of the city, there has been a constant flow of complaints. I do not belong to the legal profession, but I think that litigation has increased under the present system and a great deal of inconvenience has been caused to litigants. For these reasons I think that Presidency Magistrates should sit in one building in some central part of the city."

The Hon'ble MR. LYON said :—

"My Lord, I regret that, in the present state of affairs, it is not possible for Government to accept this resolution. I fully acknowledge that, as has been emphasised by the Hon'ble Member, the change in the location of the courts in Calcutta was undertaken as an experimental measure and that we must abide by the final result of that experiment. It was, however, only carried out in the beginning of last year, and I think it is open to argument that it has been impossible as yet to gauge the actual results of the experiment, or to weigh all the facts that have been ascertained and placed before us by the Hon'ble Member with such lucidity. The Hon'ble Member in laying before us the reasons which induced Government to enter upon this

change has amused himself by setting up gentlemen of straw for the pleasure of knocking them down. He has suggested that Government were influenced by various reasons when dealing with this matter which, I am afraid, were altogether foreign to their views on the subject. We did not argue that in the immediate past there has been a great increase of work for the Presidency Magistrates, and, indeed, we have given the best possible proof that we did not use that argument by dispensing with the services of the fifth Presidency Magistrate, and by thus reducing our establishment to four stipendiary Magistrates. I think the Hon'ble Member will acknowledge that we could not have given greater proof of our acceptance of the Hon'ble Member's argument. He has also pointed out that the area of the town and the number of the police-stations have not changed. Of course it is not in any way our case to say that they have. He has, however, referred to our resolution and has correctly indicated that it was mainly the insufficiency of accommodation at the Lal Bazar Police Court which compelled us to make some change in the actual location of the Presidency Magistrates' Courts. The Hon'ble Member has not, I believe, practised in the Lal Bazar Police Court, but he is doubtless acquainted with many gentlemen who have, and I think that he knows well, and other Hon'ble Members know equally well, what an entirely impossible building that was. It was a magnificent endeavour to accommodate a quart of liquid in a pint pot. The site was entirely inadequate from the very beginning, and I have even now a vivid recollection of my visit to that court with His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Charles Elliott, when he inspected it immediately after its completion. The unanimous conclusion we came to then was that a grave error had been committed in attempting to accommodate the Presidency Magistrates' Courts on such an inadequate site. It has always been a source of complaint by the public that the accommodation provided for pleaders, witnesses, parties and the Magistrates themselves was hopelessly and entirely insufficient. There was no compound and no space outside where people could gather, and consequently everybody had to wait in the confined verandahs of the court. The building itself was small, and the number of courts was insufficient, and the circumstances of the court were so bad that when a proposal was made to add to it two extra court-rooms, there were many who considered that the suggestion was self-condemned, as there was absolutely no more room for any further buildings on this site, and because it was obvious to everybody concerned that the Courts must necessarily be removed from that place. That same criticism applies to the suggestion that the lower portion of the building might have been used when the fire brigade was moved out of it.

I may say, therefore, that the records of the case and the string of complaints received from time to time during the last few years bear me out in stating that it was finally and rightly determined that we could not retain the Courts of the Presidency Magistrates in their present position in Lal Bazar. The difficulty then arose as to where we should find sufficient accommodation for these Courts, and, as the Hon'ble Member has rightly stated, it was supposed for a time that we should be able to obtain some other building previously occupied by the Government of India. This, however, was not feasible. We could not obtain the building for which we asked and consequently we could not free the Commissioner's office in Charnock Place, to which it was proposed to transfer these courts. We then sought for some other means for removing a source of complaint which was really intolerable, and it was suggested that the necessities of police work in Calcutta required that we should consult the convenience of litigants in the courts by bringing the courts, if possible, nearer to them, and by thus removing some of the hardships which are always inseparable from the establishment of a central court for the trial of petty cases. We found that in Bankshall Street, in the old Board of Revenue office, we had a building which could, with some alterations and modification, be made sufficient to accommodate

[*Mr. Lyon.*]

a certain portion of our Presidency Magistrates' Courts, and it was stated by those who are competent to advise us that we could also establish a very excellent court in Jorabagan, in buildings which were available for the purpose. Incidentally I may remark that I have good reasons to differ entirely from the Hon'ble Member in his statement that all the Presidency Courts could be accommodated in Bankshall Street. I have been assured by the very best authorities that this is an entire impossibility, and that to attempt to put all the Magistrates' Courts into the Bankshall Street building would be to commit, even on a larger scale, the error which was committed in 1890. It would be a grave mistake to attempt to do anything of the sort, and the consequence is that, if we accept the Hon'ble Member's motion, we shall have to acquire some area in the heart of the town and to erect large new courts for our Presidency Magistrates, and the figures of the expenditure of our recent change, which have been quoted to us by the Hon'ble Member, and described by him as appalling, would sink into insignificance in the face of the expenditure to which we should then be committed.

In one sense we are not meeting this motion with an absolutely direct negative, because we acknowledge that this is an experimental measure. We are perfectly willing to hear what is said about the experiment, to abide by the experience gained, and to make any modification which is impressed upon us as a really advantageous one by the litigant public. We have had it now represented to us that the Kyd Street Police Court has not been an entire success, in that there is not sufficient work to occupy the Magistrates there, and that, in consequence, undesirable changes have had to be made in the jurisdiction of that Court, to which the Hon'ble Member has, with good reason, called attention. We have this matter under consideration. We have not yet been able to consult everybody who is interested in the matter, and we want some further experience, but we shall consider everything the Hon'ble Member has said about the Kyd Street Police Court, and we shall be very glad indeed if other Hon'ble Members will give us further information on the subject. But that does not apply to the case of the Northern Police Court. We have every reason to suppose that the establishment of the Northern Police Court has proved a success. We have, in the first place, evidence that no fewer than 24,000 to 25,000 petty cases have been tried in the year 1914 in that Court. We may perhaps calculate fairly that some four or five persons were concerned on an average in each of these petty cases. They were exclusively drawn from the jurisdiction of this Northern Police Court, and in by far the greater number of these cases the court was much nearer to the houses of the litigants than the central court would have been. Thus, during 1914, we afforded by the change very great convenience to at least 100,000 persons, and that, I think, is not a small advantage.

The Hon'ble Member in dealing with the question of efficiency has referred almost exclusively to the difficulties caused by the want of work in the Kyd Street Police Court. I have met him to a certain extent on this point by saying that we are perfectly willing to consider all that he has urged and, if necessary, to make such modifications as will meet the case.

With reference to the Hon'ble Member's suggestion that these changes will cost a very large amount of money, I may say that the total which he mentions, Rs. 77,000, does not appear to me, even in these days of financial stress, to be very enormous, when we remember that the move from Lal Bazar was an absolute necessity, and I believe that the expenditure to which he refers includes what was required to make the Bankshall Street building suitable for a central court. I doubt whether we could have made the change from Lal Bazar in any less expensive way, if we had maintained the form of a central court for all cases. As to the question of the delay in the despatch of business owing to the difficulty of referring to the Chief Presidency Magistrate, it is of course obvious that a change in administration of this kind, by which one court is removed to some distance, involves a good many

administrative changes which require some time to settle down. Greater authority must be given to the officer in charge of the detached court, and it will take some little time to see what powers are required and what changes in rules and customs are necessary before delays and difficulties can be avoided. I have no detailed information, nor have any definite cases been given to me, but I make this concession to the Hon'ble Member that, with our experience of administration, it is obvious that these changes must cause some difficulty. We have only had one year of experience and, if these difficulties are represented, I have no doubt every possible care will be taken by the Chief Presidency Magistrate to avoid them in future.

The Hon'ble Member has stated that hardship to the public has been caused by the change. Most of the cases cited by him concern the transfer of the jurisdiction of Magistrates, and I have alluded to them already, but I would point out to the Hon'ble Member that his complaint here is not so much that decentralisation has been affected, but that the decentralisation has not been more complete. He would have been better satisfied if we had made our decentralisation complete. I hope we shall be able to do this in future. Incidentally, I may say that I prefer the word 'decentralisation' to the word 'partition,' as a description of the action taken by us.

I am sorry that the Hon'ble Member should have made the suggestion that there has been objectionable interference with Magistrates on racial grounds. I do not know if the Hon'ble Member has had any hope of capturing votes by making a suggestion of this sort—I sincerely hope not—but it really is entirely unjustified in the case he has put before us. I have been reminded by the Hon'ble Mr. Kerr, the Chief Secretary, that, in London, a far vaster city than Calcutta—all political cases of importance are taken up at the Bow Street Police Court. Is it then very extraordinary that in Calcutta we should deal with special political cases in one special court? I doubt whether it is entirely consistent with the responsibility which the Hon'ble Member owes to this Council, that he should make this suggestion. He knows that even in a central court cases must be distributed by the Chief Presidency Magistrate according to what he considers the best means and the best methods to adopt for their trial. Moreover, the Hon'ble Member says that, in the central police court, whatever the distribution might be, it would not be noticed, and his objection is that it is noticed in cases which are tried in different courts. I think that this suggestion demonstrates the flimsy character of the argument used by the Hon'ble Member.

We come finally to the suggestion that parties suffer very grave inconvenience because they cannot get lawyers of their own choice. I am very glad, with reference to that argument, that the Hon'ble Member began his speech by disclaiming any desire to serve the interests of gentlemen of the legal profession. In the same way I do not wish to suggest that there is anything of the kind at the back of this motion. But I would submit to Hon'ble Members, who have far greater experience of the Bar than I have, that the number of pleaders and lawyers in Calcutta is not entirely inadequate, and that it is not impossible that, with further opportunities given to them, pleaders and members of the Bar may establish themselves at these different courts in Calcutta, thus securing that the emoluments of the legal profession may be spread over a somewhat wider area than they are spread at the present moment. I think we may assert, without offence, with reference to this profession, that there are as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it, and that we shall find, after we have had further experience, that there will be adequate legal assistance available at each of such courts as may be finally established. I would point out again with reference to this matter that the argument can only apply to the more important cases, and that out of 29,000 cases tried in the Northern Court, 24 to 25,000 have been found, at the very first classification,

[*Mr. Lyon · Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq.*]

to be obviously petty cases, while of the rest a large number were also of a petty nature in which legal assistance was not required. I cannot think, therefore, that the argument that large numbers of suitors are put to inconvenience because they cannot obtain, except at great cost, the services of certain members of the legal profession has necessarily very great weight.

While opposing the resolution and leaving the decision to the Council, I would say that we shall be very glad indeed to receive any advice in the matter. We have definitely taken up this change of courts as an experimental measure, and we do not wish to come to a final determination in too great a hurry. We have very good reason to suppose that the establishment of a northern court has met the wants and necessities of a great number of litigants, and we fear that a return to the old system of a central court would inevitably involve such a vast expenditure on the provision of courts for the Magistrates that it would be impossible at least in the present financial stringency, to face it. I would suggest, therefore, that the resolution be not accepted by Hon'ble Members until we have gained further experience which will enable us to arrive at a decision on more adequate grounds."

The Hon'ble MAULVI A. K. FAZL-UL-HAQ said:—

"My Lord, after what has fallen from the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon I can fairly estimate what the fate of this resolution will be, but with the end fairly in sight I shall not despair. The Council Chamber has been the grave of many a resolution before, and I will not be sorry if my resolution goes the way of many of its predecessors. I would not have risen just now to say anything in addition to what I have already said in support of my resolution nor will I repeat myself, but there are one or two matters, which I think, at least in justification to myself, I ought to give a reply to, in connection with what has fallen from the Hon'ble Member. I will refer first of all to the remark I made that, in some cases, an invidious distinction has been made between Magistrate and Magistrate. The Hon'ble Member has referred to this, but has not contradicted the statement I made that in the cases I have quoted, as a matter of fact, although the cases arose within the jurisdiction of an Indian Magistrate, the cases were actually tried and inquired into by a European Magistrate. I said in my speech that the public in such circumstances are apt to comment and comment adversely on the procedure which, to say the least, implies that Government have not got confidence in their own officers, especially when the officer happens to be an Indian. It may be that there is no justification for such a charge against the Government, but at the same time it seems to me that the public are led to think adversely in such matters and there are many people amongst the unsuspecting public who are not likely either by education or otherwise to take a correct view of things. It is not, merely, the cases of Nirmal Kanta Roy and Suresh Chandra Mukharji which gave materials for comment. A recent case has been reported in the columns of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. There was a case which arose within the jurisdiction of the Jorabagan thana and came before the Magistrate presiding there. The pleader for the defence was ready to go on with the case and he asked the court to proceed with the case. Thereupon the Magistrate said that he would not go on with the case, but that he (the pleader for the defence) would get a notice for the transfer of the case. That was certainly no answer to the question put by the pleader. The pleader then asked, 'Why should it be transferred to another jurisdiction, when it arose within the Jorabagan jurisdiction, and was convenient to the accused and convenient to the witnesses?' The Magistrate would not give a direct answer.

These things may be quite justified, but if the Magistrates had been located in the same building, and if those cases had been taken cognisance of

[*Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul-Haq.*]

by a European Magistrate, there would be no ground for such a charge. In the present circumstances there may be reasons for justifying the trying or inquiring into political cases by certain class of Magistrates and this has its advantages. The public however are bound, under the circumstances, to put what construction they like on these facts. The Hon'ble Member has referred to the practice in England in respect of certain classes of cases being tried by certain Magistrates, but the case of England is different. There the government is by Englishmen of Englishmen. But here it is the government of Indians by an alien nation and the analogy does not apply. Certainly I wish to say that where there is such a transfer, and the transfer is made apparently according to no justification whatever, then the public will put their own construction on these transfers.

Then, as regards bringing courts nearer home to litigants, I hope the Hon'ble Member will agree with me that this only tends to foster litigation. It is no doubt very much to the advantage of the legal profession, and so far as pleaders are concerned, I may be permitted to put forward a plea on their behalf. I do certainly wish that instead of one court or two courts, there ought to be a dozen, so that we can go about levying our legal taxes as much as we can from poor unsuspecting litigants. I certainly do object to the assumption that has been made that bringing courts nearer home to the people really brings them any relief. I have already said that this only means that pleaders raise their fees—that the parties have got to pay their motor and gharry hire. As regards legal assistance, if it benefits anybody at all, it benefits the pleaders and no one else.

As regards the Kyd Street Court, I am glad to hear that Government recognise that even this experiment of a little over a year has proved it to be a failure. If the same test were applied to the Jorabagan Court, I think it also will not be found to be very much a success; but of course on this point our opinions differ and I do not wish to discuss this point further. If it is necessary to abolish the Kyd Street Court and to have a court at Jorabagan and another central court, it is much better that the two should be amalgamated in one central court and located in one building in the city. I have suggested Bankshall Street because I have seen the building. I am not an expert, but I asked some persons and I was shown certain rooms that were locked up and were not used by anybody, and I was told and told very correctly that these rooms could be utilised for the purpose of courts and Magistrates asked to sit there. If, however, the Bankshall Street building be not found to be suitable, there are other buildings in Calcutta which might accommodate not only all the Presidency Magistrates, but also the Honorary Magistrates. I agree with the Hon'ble Member that, under the present circumstances, we should not incur expenditure for new buildings. I would certainly be one of the first to object to such an expenditure at present. I have objected already to an initial expenditure of one lakh. My own idea is that buildings can be found in Calcutta which Government can rent, or there may be Government buildings which might accommodate these Magistrates.

As regards hardships to litigants, we disagree in detail. It would be useless to argue further.

I commend this resolution to the Council."

The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji rose at this stage to address the Council, but His Excellency the President called him to order and held that, as the Hon'ble Mover of the Resolution had spoken by way of reply, the discussion on the resolution had concluded and drew the Hon'ble Member's attention in this connection to rule 12 of the Bengal Legislative (Resolutions) Rules, 1912.

The resolution was then put and lost.

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

LIST OF BUSINESS—ITEM No. 8.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJI moved the following resolution :—

This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a committee, consisting of officials and non-officials, be appointed to make recommendations for the further advancement of local self-government in this Presidency in accordance with—

(*i*) the Resolution of the Government of India, dated the 28th April, 1915 ;

(*ii*) the earlier Resolution of the Government of India, dated the 18th May, 1882 ; and

(*iii*) the Despatch of Lord Morley, dated the 27th November, 1908."

He said :—

"I am sure, my Lord, that Your Excellency's Government and the Council will strongly sympathize with the object of the Resolution. Its aim and purpose is not to hamper but to help the Government. Both the Government and the representatives of the people are inspired by a common desire to promote the cause of local self-government in this province. Where there is a unity of aim and purpose, there can be no room for conflict of views or diversity of methods. We take our stand upon the same common ground. The great Resolution of Lord Ripon of the 18th May, 1882, is our Magna Charta in the matter of local self-government. It is also the oracle of the Government, the fountain-head of official inspiration and guidance. To this Resolution Lord Morley refers in his Despatch of the 28th November, 1908, in terms of approving eloquence.

'I do not know,' says he, 'where to look for a better expression of the views that should govern our policy under this important head.'

The Decentralization Commission in 1910, and the Government of India in 1915 both rely upon it, the former to make their recommendations, the latter to record their Resolution. We are thus united in a common acceptance of the policy laid down by the Resolution of the 18th May, 1882. The situation is simplified : the ground is cleared.

What are the basal principles of the Resolution? They are, firstly, that the non-official members of the local bodies should feel that they have real power and real responsibility and obviously the best way to make them feel that they have real power and responsibility is to give them real power and responsibility ; and secondly, whatever official control has to be exercised must be exercised from without and not from within. Have these fundamental principles been carried out? The system has now been in force for over the lifetime of a generation. There has been ample time and ampler opportunities for giving effect to them. Is local self-government to-day in 1915 what it was intended to be by Lord Ripon in 1882? The question must be answered in the negative. Lord Morley is my authority. He says in his Despatch to the Government of India, dated the 28th November 1908 :—

'Local self-government so far has not been a success, because the true principle laid down in the Resolution of Lord Ripon has been departed from. Non-official members have not been induced to such an extent as was hoped to take a real interest in local business ; because, their powers and their responsibilities were not real. If local self-government has so far been no marked success as a training ground, it is mainly for the reason that the constitution of the local bodies departed from what was affirmed in the Resolution to be "the vital principle," that "the control should be exercised from without rather than from within ; the Government should revise and check the acts of local bodies but not dictate them."'

[*Babu Surendra Nath Banerji.*]

How can non-official members of local bodies feel this sense of real power when they are, as in the District Boards, in a permanent minority or when, as in the municipalities, there is very great interference on the part of the executive authorities with the minutest details of municipal administration? The Decentralization Commission recommended that usually the District Boards should contain an elective majority chosen by the non-official members of the sub-districts or Local Boards. This recommendation was made in 1910; and here in the year of grace 1915, we have not a single District Board in Bengal where there is an elective majority. This is all the more regrettable when we find that in other provinces, such as the United Provinces and the Central Provinces, there are District Boards which have an elective majority. My Lord, this is a slur upon our province. It was, I am sure, never intended to be so; but it is bound to be interpreted as such. We do not deserve it. For in point of enlightenment, culture and public spirit we are second to no other province in India. I hope my Hon'ble friend the Member in charge will be able to give us an assurance that this state of things will soon be mended or ended.

As regards the municipalities, I thankfully recognise the fact that in the case of the vast majority their constitution is popular in the sense that two-thirds of the members are elected. This state of things has however continued ever since 1885, that is to say, for nearly 30 years. I ask my Lord, if the time has not come for a further advance in this direction? Are we always to have partially elected municipalities? Are we to remain in this condition of arrested progress which must result in stagnation? There are municipalities in other parts of India where three-fourths of the members are elected.

The objection probably would be that Government must reserve in its hands the power of nominating a certain percentage of the Municipal Commissioners in order to provide for the interests of minorities. I am as anxious as the Government could be for the protection of the interests of minorities, but I contend that the reservation of the power of nomination in the hands of Government for that end is not necessary. Where the population is exclusively or largely Hindu or Muhammadan the question does not arise. The difficulty occurs where the population is mixed, consisting of Hindus and Muhammadans. For such areas I would recommend that there should be two Commissioners, one Hindu and another Muhammadan, it being obligatory on the rate-payers to elect a Municipal Commissioner belonging to the minority. Under such an arrangement, the Government need not reserve to itself the power of appointing the representatives of minorities. But it might be said that it may sometimes be necessary to nominate experts. I have not the smallest desire to underestimate the value of expert knowledge; but let us not exaggerate it either. Experts are good for purposes of advice. But are they equally good for purposes of deliberation and decision? Is there not a certain amount of narrowness about experts, a want of breadth of view in dealing with matters which need to be looked at from the broad standpoint of commonsense and knowledge of affairs? But I will waive this argument. I will concede that the appointment of experts may sometimes prove useful. But is it necessary to reserve one-third of the appointments for this purpose in the hands of Government? I think that with the exception of one or two of the bigger municipalities where the population may not be homogenous the nomination by Government of Municipal Commissioners may be altogether done away with or seriously curtailed. I venture to make this suggestion for the consideration of Government.

Then there are some municipalities where all the members are nominated by the Government. They are principally the mill-municipalities. Here even an advance is necessary. There are mill-municipalities with a fringe area inhabited by a population who are in no way connected with the